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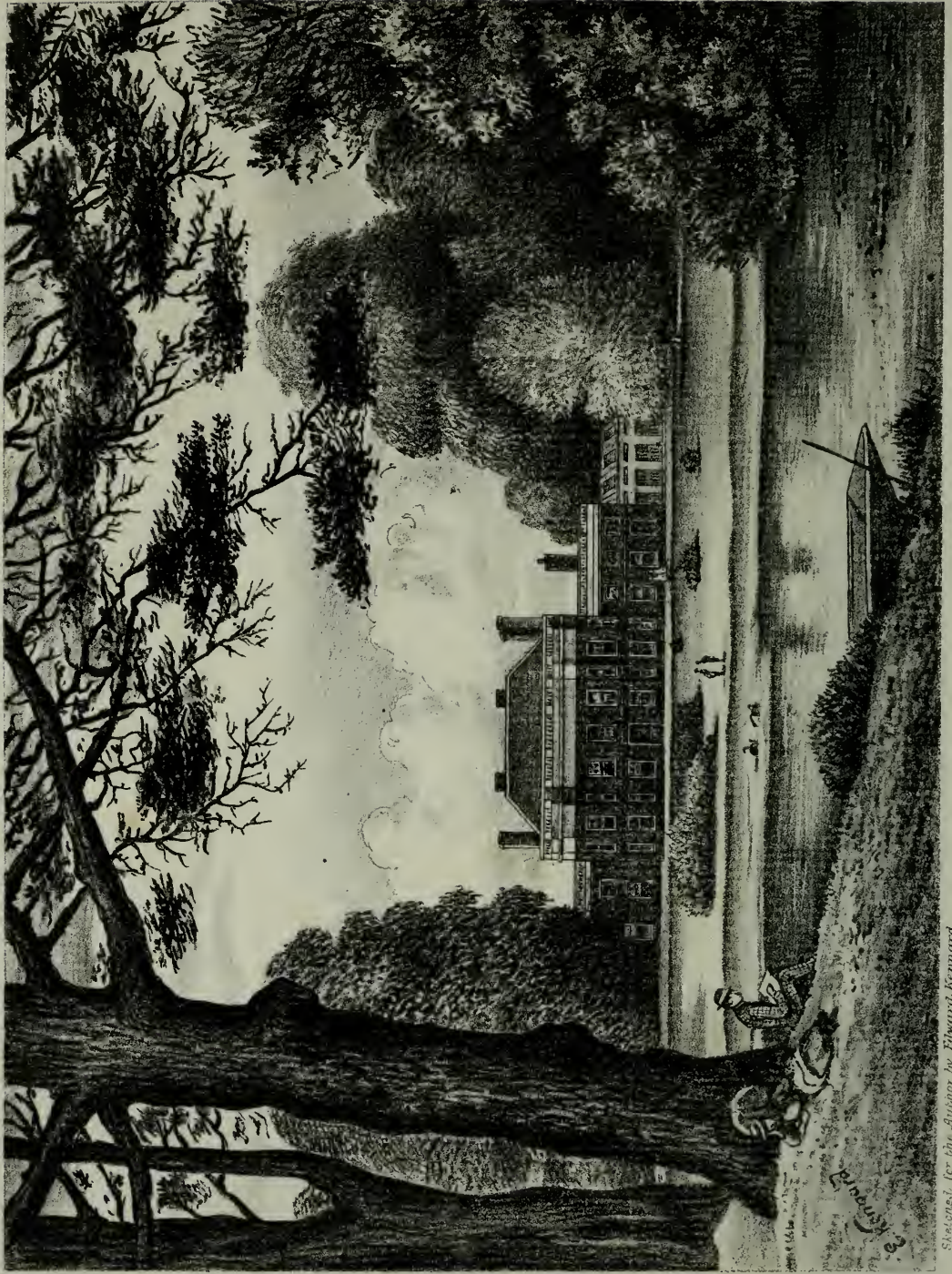
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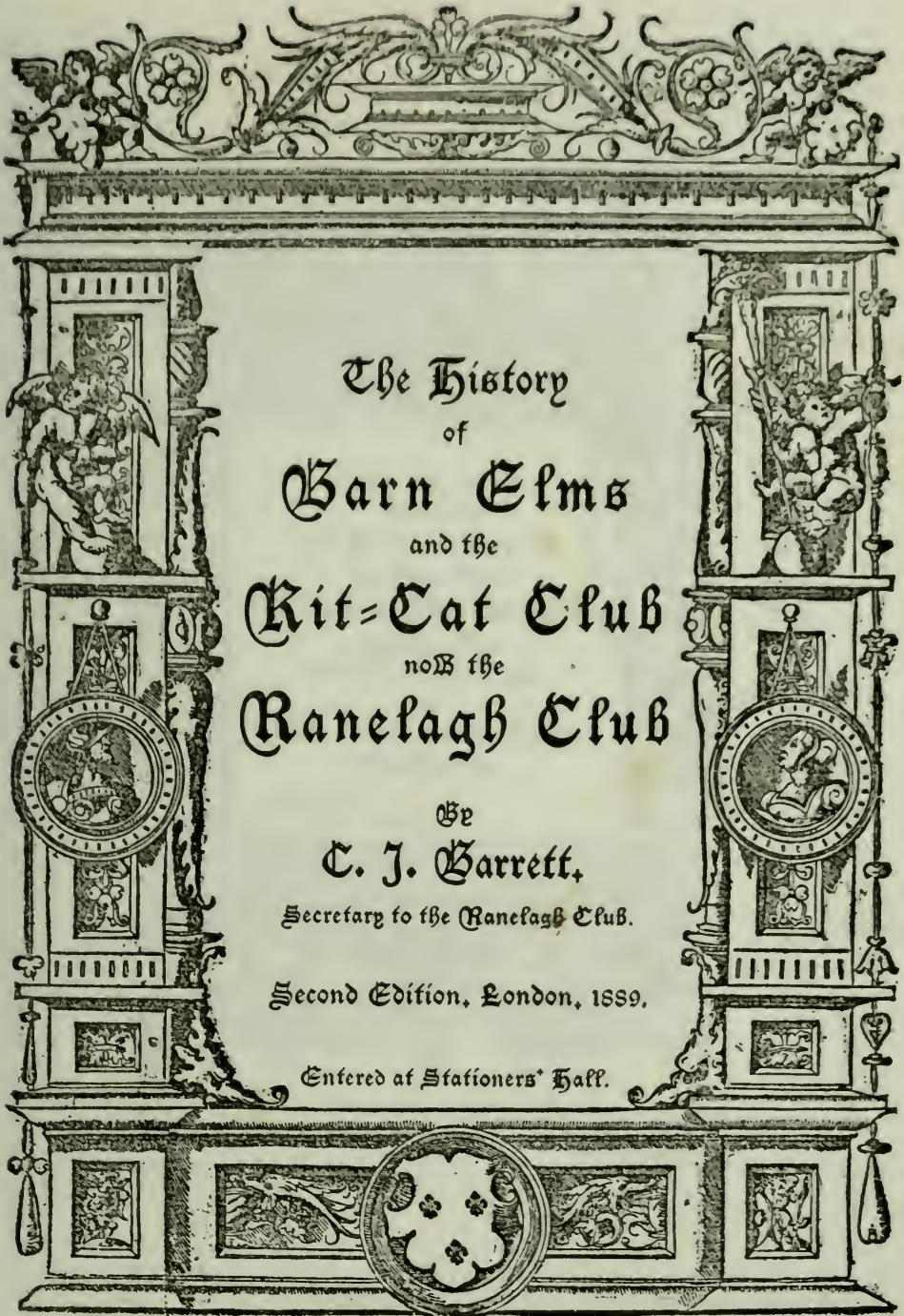






Sketches for the *Archer* by Edward Kennard

BARN ELMS 1894.



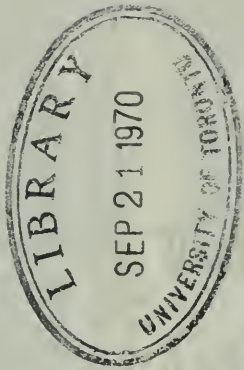
The History  
of  
Barn Elms  
and the  
Kit-Cat Club  
now the  
Ranelagh Club

By  
C. J. Barrett,

Secretary to the Ranelagh Club.

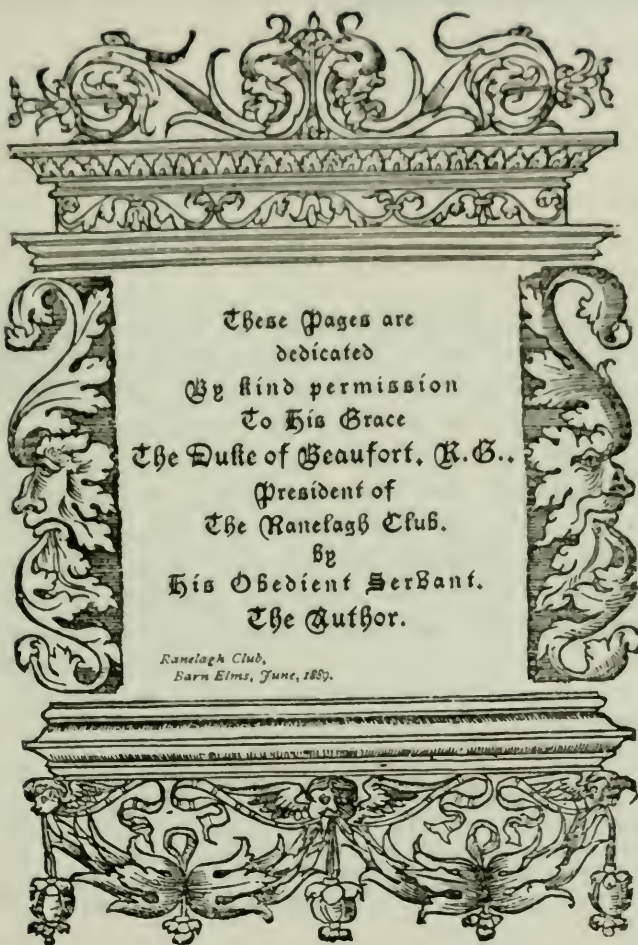
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dedicated  
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To His Grace  
The Duke of Beaufort, K. G.,  
President of  
The Ranelagh Club.  
By  
His Obedient Servant,  
The Author.

*Ranelagh Club,  
Barn Elms, June, 1857.*





## Barn Elms.

**W**E find that the Manor of Barn Elms was given by Athelstane<sup>1</sup> (925—940) to the Canons of St. Paul, and has been held by them ever since, with the exception of its temporary alienation in the time of Cromwell. The name, according to Lysons, is the Saxon *berne*, a barn, and it has been suggested the Canons may have had a *spicarium* or great barn here; but others think that Barn was the patronymic of a family or tribe, as in Barnsbury, &c., and no doubt the parish of Barnes and the Common take their name from the same origin.

It is thus described in the Domesday Book :—

“The Canons of Saint Paul hold Berne. In the time of King Edward it was assessed at eight hides, which were included in the rate with Archbishop’s manor of Mortlake, as they are at present. There are six carucates of arable land. Two carucates are in demesne; and there are nine villains and four bordars with three carucates; and twenty acres of meadows. In the time of King Edward it was valued at £6; now (temp. William I.) at £7.”

<sup>1</sup> Dugdale's "History of St. Paul's Cathedral," p. 5.

<sup>2</sup> This taxation was made at the time that Pope Nicholas IV. granted a tenth of all ecclesiastical revenues to the King to defray the expenses of the Holy War. A record of this taxation is preserved in the Exchequer; another copy is in the Bodleian Library, and is often referred to by the title of the Bodleian Valor. The valuation of ecclesiastical revenues was the same in most instances in 1406, when the clergy of the province of Canterbury granted a tenth to the King. (Vide Regist. Winton. at the beginning of Beaufort's Register.) The valuation in the King's books was made in 1534.

In the year 1283 there was a royal mandate that this Manor should not be leased to any but members of the Church of St. Paul's. About the year 1256 it was leased to Robert de Barton, precentor, for life, subject to the annual payment of three rents in bread and beer, the customary dues to the bakehouse and beerhouse, and forty shillings per annum to the Chapter. Several other leases to members of the Church are preserved among the records.

In the taxation of Pope Nicholas, about 1291, the Manor is valued as the property of the Canons at £12.<sup>2</sup> In the reign of Edward II. the Canons obtained from the King a charter of free warren, and an exemption of the burthensome charge of purveyance.

From the Patent Rolls of the tenth year of Henry IV. (1409), it appears that the Archbishop of Canterbury was entitled to a sparrow-hawk (esperverium), or 2s. in money annually, and also £2 every twentieth year, for ever, from the lords of the Manor of Barnes, belonging to the Canons of St. Paul's, that they might be excused from serving from the office of reeve in his Manor of Wimbledon.

This, like most estates belonging to ecclesiastical bodies, has been generally let on lease for long terms.

In the fifteenth century the Manor was again leased to

<sup>1</sup> Lamb, Reg. Bouchier, f. 124 b.

<sup>2</sup> Wiatt's term commenced March 1st, 19th Henry VII. (1504); it was for ninety-six years. (Chapter-book St. Paul's: Shirburne Dean.)

<sup>2</sup> A painting of Sir Francis Walsingham, sold by H. D. Pochin, Esq., on his leaving Barn Elms, was secured by the Club.

laymen, for in 1467 (temp. Edward IV.) Sir John Saye and others were lessees of this Manor, which they held with the advowson, and presented to the living in that year, and again in 1471 and 1477. Both the Manor and advowson had been transferred, in or before 1480, to Thomas Thwayte,<sup>1</sup> Chancellor of the Exchequer, and of the Duchy of Lancaster. In 1504 (19th year of Henry VII.) a lease was granted to Henry Wiatt, Esq.,<sup>2</sup> who appears to have been afterwards knighted, for in 1513 and 1524 (temp. Henry VIII.), Sir Henry Wiatt, Knight, presented to the living as patron and grantee of the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's. The Wiatts had a long lease, which by assignment passed through several hands. Sir Andrew Judd was in possession in 1555; Thomas Smythe in 1573; James Althain in 1577; and in 1579, Richard Martin, Alderman of London; in 1579 he sold his interest to Queen Elizabeth, who bought it for Sir Francis Walsingham<sup>3</sup> and his heirs for ever, as a reward for good services done to the Crown. Sir Francis entertained the Queen in 1585, 1588, and 1589. On the last of these visits, Lord Talbot, who was appointed to attend the Queen at Barn Elms, wrote to his father, the Earl of Shrewsbury, May 26th, 1589:—

“ This day Her Majestie goeth to Barn Elms, where she is  
“ purposed to tarry all day to-morrow, being Tuesday, and

<sup>1</sup> Lady Walsingham was Ursula, daughter of Henry St. Barbe, of Somersetshire, and widow of Sir Richard Worsley. Her two only sons were blown up with gunpowder soon after her marriage with Sir Francis Walsingham. ("Baronetage," 1741, vol. i. page 191).

<sup>2</sup> Gerard mentions planting a *Phillyrea ferrata* in the garden of Barn Elms, belonging to the Right Hon. the Earl of Essex.



"Wednesday to return to Whitehall agayne. I am appointed  
"among the rest to attend her Majestic to Barn Elms. I pray  
"God my diligent attendance here may procure me a gracious  
"answer to my suit at her return, for while she is ther nothing  
"may be moved but matter of delyghte, and to content her,  
"which is the only cause of her going thither."

Walsingham died poor at his house in Seething Lane in 1590, in such wretched circumstances that his friends were obliged to bury him privately in the dead of night, in confirmation of which alleged fact no certificate of his funeral has been discovered at the Heralds' Office, which would have been the case had he been buried with the customary honours. His widow<sup>1</sup> resided at Barn Elms till her death, twelve years later, 19th June, 1602, and was buried privately on the following night near her husband's remains in St. Paul's Cathedral. The Manor passed to their daughter, who, as Lysons remarks, had the singular good fortune of being wife to three of the most accomplished men of the age—Sir Philip Sidney, the Earl of Essex (the unfortunate favourite of Queen Elizabeth), and the Earl of Clanricard; but only her second husband, the Earl of Essex<sup>2</sup> is known to have made Barn Elms his residence. The following entries, subtracted from books relating to that stormy period, will suffice to show the style of company entertained by the Earl in their sequestered mansion:—

<sup>1</sup> P. 394 : "Vehementum et austere acerbum."

"The Earl of Essex received in his familiar house Barn-Elms, a rabble of foreign diplomatists and spies."

"Sir Christopher Blount returned from Drayton Bassett to Barn Elms, which had passed into the possession of Essex with his wife."

"Essex, knowing that he had sinned against hope, and maddened by the cold response from Dublin, began to crowd Barn-Elms and Essex House with his more desperate followers, who proposed to do without an army what Queen Elizabeth had failed to do with one."

From an entry in the parish register, it appears that Robert Beale, Chancellor of the North and Clerk of Privy Council, brother-in-law to Lady Walsingham, also died at Barn Elms, March 25th, 1601. This time-serving courtier acquired for himself an unenviable notoriety through his having been frequently employed by Queen Elizabeth in her negotiations with Mary, Queen of Scotland. He accompanied Lord Buckhurst when the latter went to announce to her that the sentence of death had been passed upon her; he was also dispatched to Fotheringay Castle with the warrant for the beheading of the ill-fated Queen, which warrant he read on the scaffold, and remained to witness its execution.

Camden describes him as being a man of impetuous and morose disposition,<sup>1</sup> therefore all the more qualified to carry out the inhuman orders of his tyrannical and jealous mistress. He was employed on an embassy to

<sup>1</sup> "Mr. Egerton, the Ladie Marie's gentleman usher, buried  
" Aug. 6th, 1603."

"The Ladie Marie's chambermaid buried Sept. 19th, 1603."

<sup>2</sup> "The Ladie Marie died at Lord Kivrett's, at Stanwell, in 1607,  
"and the Lady Elizabeth was educated at Lord Harrington's."

<sup>3</sup> Baker's Chronicle, pt. iv. p. 123. If Stow's account of the death of Sir Francis Walsingham's widow be accurate, I apprehend this Lady Walsingham must have been the wife of Sir Thomas, who died in 1670. King James granted a pension of £400 per annum to Lady Walsingham in the beginning of his reign. (MS. of Sir Julius Caesar, Brit. Mus., 4160, Ayscough's Cat.) Rowland White, writing to Sir Robert Sydney, an. 1591, says, "My Lady Walsingham, I mean the old lady," by which it appears that there were two ladies of that name contemporaries. (Sydney State Papers, vii. p. 131.) Sir Thomas Walsingham, who died in 1630, was son of another Sir Thomas, first cousin of Sir Francis.

Zealand with Sir William Winter, in 1576, and the year before his death was one of the Commissioners at the treaty of Boulogne. Several of his letters on the business of the Queen of Scots are in Lodge's "Shrewsbury Papers." His daughter married Sir Henry Yelverton, one of the Judges in the Common Pleas (temp. Charles I.).

By two entries<sup>1</sup> in the register it would seem that the Princess Mary,<sup>2</sup> daughter of King James I., had been resident at Barn Elms, as two of her servants were buried here in August and September, 1603. Mr. Lysons observes that there must be a mistake in the register or in the historians, who do not bring her out of Scotland till after that period. Lady Walsingham was sent to Scotland to bring up some of the King's children, and, according to Baker's Chronicle, returned with Prince Henry and the Princess Elizabeth<sup>3</sup> about the beginning of July, 1603. It was then customary for some of the nobility or great people about Court to farm the royal children (if one may use the expression), that is, they discharged the expenses of their board and education by contract.

The occupants of Barn Elms in 1620 were a Sir John and Lady Kennedy. Sir John, like many others of his countrymen, was a

"Penniless lad wi' a lang pedigree,"



and so bethought him of the high road to England, which, as Dr. Johnson sarcastically remarks, "is of all prospects the most pleasing to a Scotchman." With that "canniness" which is attributed to those of the "North Countrie," Sir John availed himself of this supposed opening to preferment, and crossed the Border in the train of his royal master, in search of a well-dowered bride; he quickly found one, to the no small delight of "Gentle Jamie," in the person of Elizabeth Brydges, daughter of Giles Lord Chandos. In the retirement of Barn Elms Sir John Kennedy no doubt expected to lead a quiet domestic life in the society of his bride; but, alas! this was not to be, for the fair Elizabeth was extravagant in her habits and her husband poor. Unable to obtain the money to defray her expenses, the lady ran into debt; the husband remonstrated in vain, and the lady still pursued her mad career. Debts poured in; in her extremity Lady Kennedy applied to her nephew, Lord Chandos, who refused her any assistance.

Unable to satisfy her creditors, they attacked Sir John. Threatened with arrest, and unable to dispute his wife's debts, he at length resolved to dispute his marriage, and there happening, strangely enough, to be some flaws in the contract, he was enabled in this way to get rid of his wife.





How long after this separation we know not, this once gay and brilliant girl, "the light of Sudeley and Hampton Court," came to the gate of Sir Arthur Gorges—to make use of his own words—"in rags, her legs bare, her feet shoeless, her coarse petticoat clinging about her limbs, an old cloak on her beautiful head, begging of him to let her come in from the cold for Christian pity and love of his wife."

Edward Ferrers, Esq., and his wife Catherine, were in possession of the lease in 1628; Richard Gosson in 1633. In 1638 the Dean and Chapter held a Court for themselves for this Manor. The next year, 1639, they leased the demesne to John Cartwright, Esq., for twenty-one years; who, when the Church property was exposed for sale by the Parliament, purchased the estate, and Richard Streete, Esq., of London, bought the Manor and advowson. After the restoration of Charles II., the Dean and Chapter recovered their interest, and Mr. Cartwright, or his representatives, held it on lease as before (they held this lease till 1750, when Sir R. Hoare became lessee at £60 per annum).

In 1659 the house was advertised to be let by the description of "Barn Elms House, in Surrey, with orchards, gardens, coach-houses, stable, grazing for two geldings or cows, spring water, brought to the house in

THE  
MERCURIUS POLITICUS  
OR  
POLITICAL MIRROR  
OF GREAT-BRITAIN  
AND IRELAND  
IN THE YEAR 1659.  
LONDON, Printed by J. Streater, at the Sign of the Gun, in St. Dunstons Church-yard, 1659.

1 "Mercurius Politicus," 5th May, 1659.



leadon pipes, pleasant walks by the Thames side, and other accomodation, to be let, or may be divided into two convenient dwellings with gardens, orchard and water to each of them; enquire further of Mr. Edward Marshall, a stone cutter, living in Fetter Lane."<sup>1</sup>

The parish register of Barnes contains the following entry in connection with the singular individual who resided at Barn Elms during the Commonwealth:—

“ August 23rd, 1672, buried Mr. Hiam.”

The real name of this man was Alrezer Coppe; he was born at Warwick, 1619, and was a Post Master of Merton, Oxford.

After having been by turns Presbyterian and Anabaptist, he became one of the wildest enthusiasts of that fanatical period. He published several pamphlets with strange titles. One of them is dated London, 1648, “two or three days before the Eternal God thundered at the great St. Helens.” In 1650 he was committed to Newgate for publishing a work called “The Fiery Flying Scroll.” A copy of this book, which was burnt at Westminster and Coventry, is preserved amongst the collection of pamphlets in the British Museum. Its author seems, however, to have been a more fitting subject for Bedlam than Newgate. After having

<sup>1</sup> Account of the Life of Abraham Cowley.

remained about a year in prison, he published a recantation called "The Wings of the Fiery Flying Scroll Clipped, or Coppe's return to the way of truth."

In September, 1650, he was brought before the House of Commons, but it was some time ere he purchased his liberty; when, being unwilling again to expose himself to danger, and being alarmed, probably, at the severe punishment that had overtaken his brother enthusiast, James Nayler, he changed his name to Higham, and went to reside at Barn Elms, where he practised as a surgeon, and preached occasionally in some of the neighbouring conventicles.

Abraham Cowley came here, in 1664, for "solitude," but, says his biographer, Bishop Sprat, it did not

"Agree so well with his body as his mind. The chief cause of it was, that out of haste to be away from the tumult and noise of the city, he had not prepared so healthful situation in the country as he might have done. Of this he soon began to find the inconvenience at Barn Elms, where he was afflicted with a dangerous and lingering fever. After that he scarce ever recovered his former health." <sup>1</sup>

Evelyn records two visits to Cowley here :—

"14th May, 1663.—Went to Barnes to visit my excellent and ingenious friend Abraham Cowley."

"2nd June, 1664.—To Barne Elmes to see Abraham Cowley after his sickness."

In 1665 Cowley removed to Chertsey, where he died



two years later, 1667. His allowance was, at last, not above three hundred a year. His death was occasioned by an accident, whilst his great friend, Dean Sprat, was with him on a visit. They had been together to see a friend of Cowley's, who (according to the fashion of those times) made them too welcome. They did not set out for their walk home till it was late, and had drunk so deep that they lay out in the fields all night. This gave Cowley the fever that carried him off. The summer-house where Cowley used to sit and write is still in existence. But though Cowley sought solitude, others came here about this time with very different intent.

We read in Pepys' Diary, May 26th, 1667 :—

“ After dinner by water alone to Westminster to the parish  
“ church, and there did entertain myself with my perspective  
“ glass up and down the church, by which I had the great  
“ pleasure of seeing and gazing at a great many very fine  
“ women ; and what with that and sleeping I passed away the  
“ time till sermon was done. Then away to my boat, and up with  
“ it as far as Barn Elms, reading of Mr. Evelyn's late new book  
“ against Solitude, in which I do not find much excess of good  
“ matter, though it be pretty for a bye discourse. I walked the  
“ length of the Elms, and with great pleasure saw some gallant  
“ ladies and people come with their bottles and basket, and  
“ chairs and form, to sup under the trees by the water side,  
“ which was mighty pleasant. So home.”

Pepys several times writes in his Diary that he went on the “ Lordes Day ” afternoon up the river in his boat





"to Barn Elms, and there took a turn " alone, or "with my wife and Mercer up by the water to Barn Elms, where we walked by moonshine." But on one occasion, after "an extraordinary good dinner " which he gave to "Mrs. Pierce and Mrs. Manuel, the Jew's wife, and Mr. Corbet and Mrs. Pierce's boy and girl—

"I had a barge ready at the Tower Wharf to take us in, "and so went all of us up as high as Barn Elms. A very fine "day, and all the way sung; and Mrs. Manuel sings very finely, "and is a mighty discreet, sober-carriaged woman, that both "my wife and I are mightily taken with her. At Barn Elms "we walked round, and then to the barge again, and had much "merry talk and good singing."

The velvet lawns of Barn Elms seem about this time to have been very attractive to pleasure seekers ; even the Lord Mayor and other civic magnates, when they went up the river in their barges, usually halted at Barn Elms to indulge in music, dance, and feast.

It was at Barn Elms that the duel was fought, January 16th, 1678, between the Earl of Shrewsbury and the Duke of Buckingham, respecting the wife of the former, which caused so much scandal even in the licentious Court of Charles II. The Earl of Shrewsbury died two months after, but a pardon had meantime been granted under the Great Seal to all persons concerned in the duel. It was said that the Countess, habited as a page,

<sup>1</sup> This lady was Anna Maria Brudenell, daughter of Robert, Earl of Cardigan. She survived both her gallant and her first husband, and was married, secondly, to George Rodney Bridges, son of Sir Thomas Brydges, of Keynsham in Somersetshire ; she died on the 20th April, 1702.



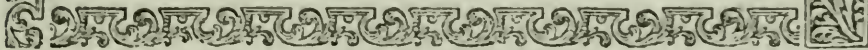
held the Duke's horse whilst he was fighting her husband, and went home with him afterward.<sup>1</sup>

Again in Pepys' Diary, March 23rd, 1668 :—

“ Much discourse of the duel yesterday between the Duke  
“ of Buckingham, [Sir Robert] Holmes, and one [Captain  
“ William] Jenkins, on one side, and my lord of Shrewsbury,  
“ Sir John Talbot, and one Bernard Howard (son of the Earl  
“ of Arundel) on the other side: and all about my lady  
“ Shrewsbury, who is at this time, and hath for a great while  
“ been, a mistress to the Duke of Buckingham, and so her  
“ husband challenged him, and they met yesterday, in a close  
“ near Barn Elms, and there fought; and my lord Shrewsbury  
“ is run through the body, from the right breast through the  
“ shoulder, and Sir John Talbot all along up one of his arms,  
“ and Jenkins killed upon the place, and the rest all in a little  
“ measure wounded.”

Before Mr. Hoare purchased the estate in 1750 the Swiss Count Heidegger, master of the revels in the reign of George II., was for some time tenant of the house, 1727—1750.

Heidegger was as noted for his skill in arranging the revels, as he was amongst the wits for his ugliness (“something betwixt Heidegger and an owl”). The King having invited himself to sup with him one evening, came from his palace at Richmond by boat, and it was dark when he reached Barn Elms. There were no lights, and he made his way with some difficulty along the avenue to the house; that was dark also, and the King





grew angry at the absence of preparation, when in an instant, house, avenue, and grounds were brilliantly illuminated by innumerable lamps, which had been so arranged as to be lighted simultaneously. The King greatly enjoyed the surprise, and, as the rest of the entertainment was equally successful, Heidegger was abundantly complimented for his device. The following amusing anecdote of Heidegger is well worthy of reproduction :—

“ William, Duke of Cumberland, is so associated in our  
“ minds with the suppression of the Jacobite rebellion of 1745,  
“ that it is difficult to realise him as a practical joker and a  
“ patron of sport. He was Jack Broughton’s fast friend.  
“ When that first of scientific boxers fought Slack, the butcher,  
“ his Royal Highness is said to have staked £10,000 on the  
“ event—and lost. He was once concerned with another  
“ notorious scapegrace, the Duke of Montagu, in a practical  
“ joke, which would be worth narrating if it were only for the  
“ light it throws upon the free and easy manners of the period.  
“ Heidegger being one night in company with the two dukes  
“ just mentioned, was made helplessly drunk, and with the  
“ assistance of the daughter of a Mrs. Salmon, who owned a wax-  
“ work show (the Madame Tussaud’s of the time), they took a  
“ cast of his features ; from this was formed a mask which  
“ exactly counterfeited his face ; this, together with a wig and a  
“ suit of clothes precisely the same in cut and materials as that  
“ worn by him, was put upon a man about his size, and on the  
“ next masquerade night the contemplated joke was performed.  
“ There were two bands on these occasions, and as the King  
“ entered the house, one, conducted by the true Heidegger,  
“ struck up the National Anthem ; no sooner had the strains  
“ died away than the other band, led by the false Heidegger,

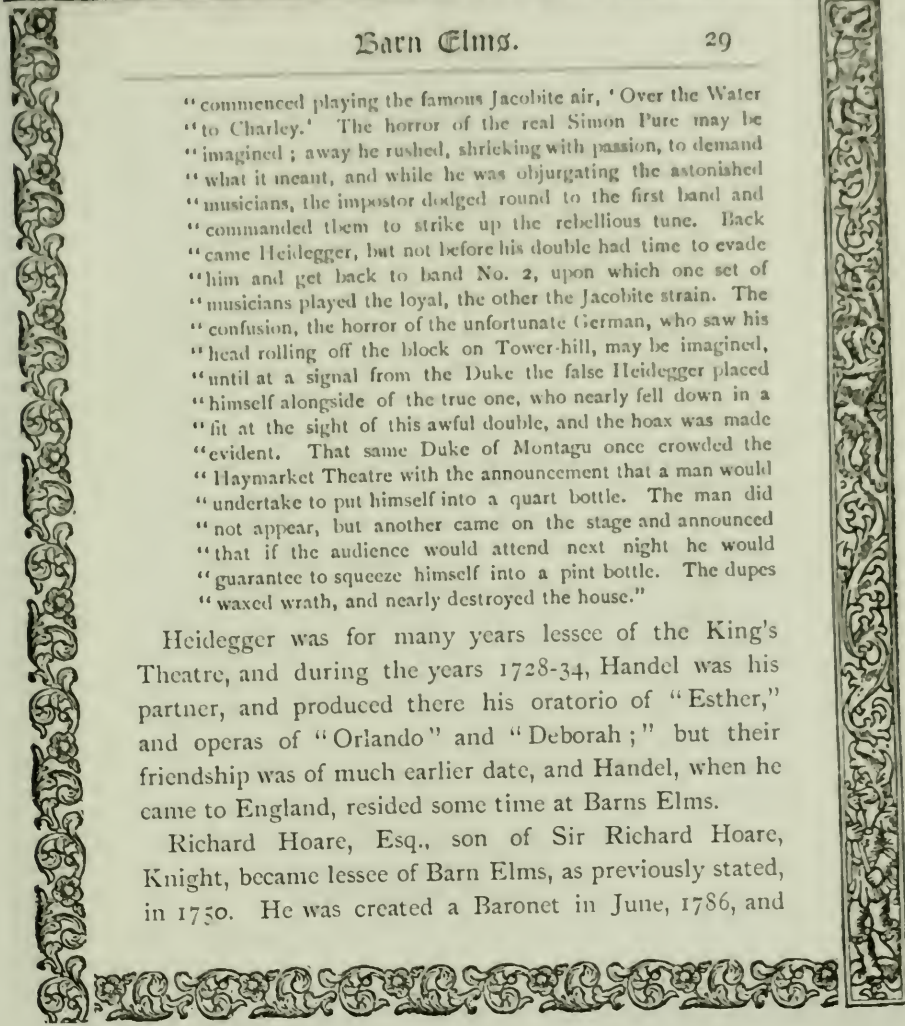




“commenced playing the famous Jacobite air, ‘Over the Water to Charley.’ The horror of the real Simon Pure may be imagined; away he rushed, shrieking with passion, to demand what it meant, and while he was objugating the astonished musicians, the impostor dodged round to the first band and commanded them to strike up the rebellious tune. Back came Heidegger, but not before his double had time to evade him and get back to band No. 2, upon which one set of musicians played the loyal, the other the Jacobite strain. The confusion, the horror of the unfortunate German, who saw his head rolling off the block on Tower-hill, may be imagined, until at a signal from the Duke the false Heidegger placed himself alongside of the true one, who nearly fell down in a fit at the sight of this awful double, and the hoax was made evident. That same Duke of Montagu once crowded the Haymarket Theatre with the announcement that a man would undertake to put himself into a quart bottle. The man did not appear, but another came on the stage and announced that if the audience would attend next night he would guarantee to squeeze himself into a pint bottle. The dupes waxed wrath, and nearly destroyed the house.”

Heidegger was for many years lessee of the King's Theatre, and during the years 1728-34, Handel was his partner, and produced there his oratorio of “Esther,” and operas of “Orlando” and “Deborah;” but their friendship was of much earlier date, and Handel, when he came to England, resided some time at Barns Elms.

Richard Hoare, Esq., son of Sir Richard Hoare, Knight, became lessee of Barn Elms, as previously stated, in 1750. He was created a Baronet in June, 1786, and









was succeeded by his only son, Sir Richard Colt Hoare, Baronet, who enlarged the mansion and made many improvements. About 1827 his interest was sold to the Hammersmith Bridge Company, but it was afterwards transferred to Sir Thomas Colebrooke, Baronet.

Sir Lancelot Shadwell, Knight, Vice-Chancellor of England, succeeded Sir T. Colebrooke. His son was unfortunately drowned whilst rowing in the upper lake, in an outrigger (which had only just been invented), by being entangled in the weeds and overturned.

We are indebted to Mr. Markham Spofforth for the following anecdote :—During the vacation, and when the weather was at its hottest, Vice-Chancellor Shadwell, who was vacation judge, bethought himself that the lake was cooler than the shades of even the finest plane trees in the world. Accordingly, he betook himself to the boathouse, and was quickly up to his chin in the lake. He had left word at the house that if anyone wanted him they were to be shown to the boathouse. He never contemplated the result, for a large party of lawyers, barristers, registrars, solicitors, and clerks arrived unexpectedly to obtain an injunction on a pressing emergency. They were conducted to the place where the Vice-Chancellor was enjoying what Thomson the poet called—

“ The purest exercise of health,  
The cool refresher of the summer heats,”

and sitting up to his chin in water the cool old Vice-





Chancellor heard their case, argued the points with them, as in duty bound when an *ex parte* application is made, and finally, without moving a muscle of his countenance, said, "*Take an injunction!*" This was recorded by the registrar, and the interesting episode ended.

A Mr. Selwin, who at one time lived at Barn Elms, met with his death under extraordinary circumstances. On returning from Cremorne his cabdriver landed him on the wrong side of the river. He discharged the man, and swam across, but after accomplishing that feat, was drowned by falling on his face in the narrow ditch which separates Barns Elms from the towing path.

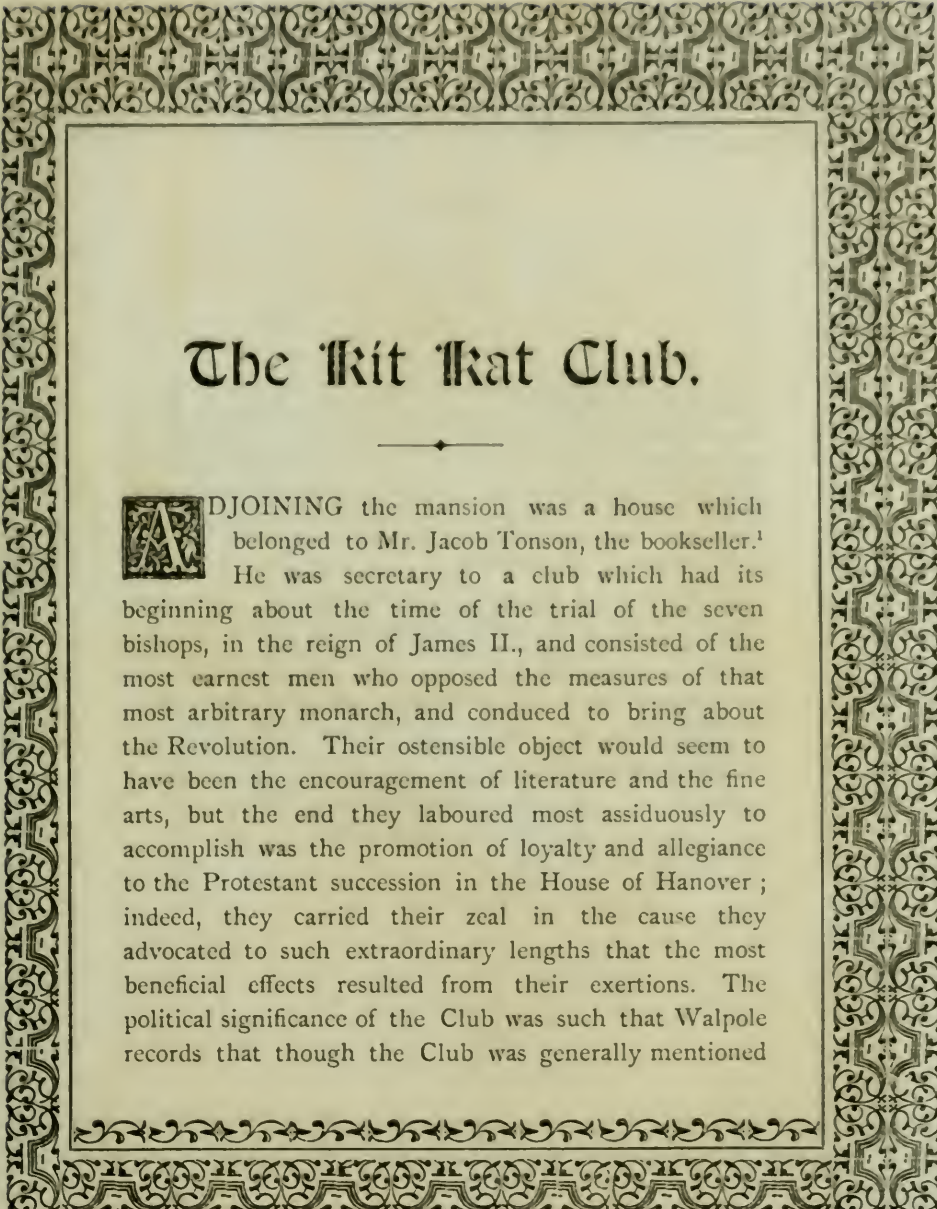
David Barclay Chapman, Esq., lived here for fifteen years, adding greatly to the improvement of the house and grounds, and was succeeded by Signor Garcia, who in 1870 disposed of his interest to H. D. Pochin, Esq., whose term ended in September, 1884, when the Ecclesiastical Commissioners granted a long lease to Reginald Herbert, Esq., of Clytha, Monmouthshire, for the purpose of continuing the Ranelagh Club at Barn Elms, the lease of the old quarters of the Club, Ranelagh House, Fulham, having expired that year.

<sup>1</sup> An authentic portrait of Jacob Tonson, the elder "Kit Kat," signed by Hogarth, sold by the present occupier, H. D. Pochin, Esq., on his leaving Barn Elms, has been purchased by the Club.





BARN ELMS, 1785.



## The 'Kit 'Kat Club.

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**A**DJOINING the mansion was a house which belonged to Mr. Jacob Tonson, the bookseller.<sup>1</sup> He was secretary to a club which had its beginning about the time of the trial of the seven bishops, in the reign of James II., and consisted of the most earnest men who opposed the measures of that most arbitrary monarch, and conduced to bring about the Revolution. Their ostensible object would seem to have been the encouragement of literature and the fine arts, but the end they laboured most assiduously to accomplish was the promotion of loyalty and allegiance to the Protestant succession in the House of Hanover; indeed, they carried their zeal in the cause they advocated to such extraordinary lengths that the most beneficial effects resulted from their exertions. The political significance of the Club was such that Walpole records that though the Club was generally mentioned

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Noble, in his continuation of "Granger," vol. iii. p. 431, says this :—" And that it was afterwards held at Barn Elms, in Surrey, near which place one of Tonson's sons purchased a house in 1747 ; and that the Duke of Somerset presenting him with his portrait, all the other members did the same." By the construction of this sentence, it would seem that the portraits were presented to Tonson's son ; but Tonson had a nephew, no son ; and there is no doubt of their having been presented to Tonson himself.

<sup>2</sup> The Fountain Tavern in the Strand was famous as the meeting place of the Ultra-Royal party in 1685, who here talked over public affairs before the meeting of Parliament. Roger L'Estrange, who had been recently knighted by the King, took a leading part in these consultations. In the reign of George II. the same house became a great resort for the Whigs, who sometimes used to meet here as many as two hundred at a time, making speeches and passing resolutions. For this reason Master Jephson, the landlord, wrote under his sign :—

Hoc Fonte derivata libertas

In Patriam populumque fluxit.

(Spencer's Anecdotes, p. 337.)





as a "sets of wits," they were in reality the patriots who saved Britain. According to Pope and Tonson, Garth, Vanbrugh, and Congreve were the then most honest-hearted, real good men of the poetical members of the Club. Charles, Earl of Dorset, was one of the first in its formation. It consisted of thirty-nine members, all men of the first rank and quality or learning, most of whom were at times employed in the greatest offices of State, or in the Army, and none were admitted but those of high distinction in one way or another. The particulars of the origin of Kit Kat are involved in some obscurity. The etymology of its nomenclature has been variously accounted for. It in all probability took its name from the person at whose house the meetings of the Club were first held. Their earliest place of rendezvous was at a house in Shire Lane, near Temple Bar, at the sign of the "Cat and Fiddle," and, as some say, afterwards at the house of Christopher Cat, the celebrated pie-man, who kept the Fountain Tavern,<sup>1</sup> in the Strand.<sup>2</sup> In *The Spectator* (No. 9), however, they are said to have derived their title, not from the maker of the pie, but from the pie itself, which was called a Kit Kat, as we now say a sandwich. Thus, in a prologue to the "Reformed Wife," it is insisted that—

"A Kit Kat is a supper for a lord."



But Dr. King, in his "Art of Cookery," is for the  
pieman—

"Immortal made, as Kit Kat by his pies."

Again—

"Here did the Assembly's title first arise,  
And Kit Kat wits sprang first from Kit Kat pies."

It is also stated that the name of the Club, "Kit Cat," was taken from the "Cat and Fiddle," the sign at which Christopher Cat made his pies. However, this might be, there seems to be no doubt that a man of the name of Christopher Cat, either as a pastry cook or tavern keeper, furnished them with such delicious mutton pies that they became a standing dish at the meeting of the Club, which at length, in 1708, obtained the name of the Kit Cat Club. Sir Richard Blackmore published a poem called "The Rise and Fall of the Kit Cat Club." There is a ludicrous account of it in Ned Ward's "History of Clubs," which represents Tonson as the originator of the institution. The Club was literary and gallant, as well as political, the members having subscribed four hundred guineas for the encouragement of good comedies in 1709.

The custom of toasting ladies after dinner, peculiar to the Kit Cat Club, and the society out of which it was originally formed, viz., "The Knights of the Toast,"



is thus alluded to in No. 24 of *The Tatler* :—  
“ Though this institution had so trivial a beginning, it is now elevated into a formal order, and that happy virgin, who is received and drunk to at their meetings, has no more to do in this life but to judge and accept of the first good offer. The manner of her inauguration is much like that of a choice of a Doge at Venice ; it is performed by balloting ; and when she is so chosen, she reigns indisputably for that ensuing year ; but must be elected anew to prolong her empire a moment beyond it. When she is regularly chosen, her name is written with a diamond on one of the drinking glasses. The hieroglyphic of the diamond is to show her that value is imaginary ; and that of the glass, to acquaint her that her condition is frail, and depends on the hand which holds her.”

The Club had its toasting glasses inscribed with a verse or toast to some reigning beauty, amongst whom were the four lovely daughters of the Duke of Marlborough—Lady Godolphin, Lady Sunderland, Lady Bridgwater, and Lady Monthermer ; Swift’s friends, Mrs. Long and Mrs. Barton—the latter the beautiful and witty niece of Sir Isaac Newton ; the Duchess of Bolton, Mrs. Brudenell, and Lady Carlisle, Mrs. D. Kirk, and Lady Wharton.



Dr. Arbuthnot, in the following epigram, seems to derive the name of the Club from this custom of toasting ladies after dinner, rather than from the rumoured maker of mutton pies :—

“ Whence deathless Kit Cat took his name  
Few critics can unriddle ;  
Some say from pastry cook it came,  
And some from ‘ Cat and Fiddle.’

“ From no trim beaux its name it boasts,  
Grey statesmen or green wits,  
But from this pell-mell pack of toasts  
Of old Cats and young Kits.”

In the summer the Club met at the “ Upper Flask,” Hampstead Heath, then a gay resort, with its races, ruffles, and private marriages.

Tonson appears to have been the key-stone of the Kit Cat Club, as may be collected from the following extracts from letters addressed to him from several members. The Duke of Somerset tells him in an epistle dated June 22nd, 1703 :—“ Our Club is dissolved till you revive it again, which we are impatient of.” In the same month and year, Vanbrugh, who was always exceedingly well disposed towards Tonson, and corresponded with him for upwards of twenty years, writing to him at Amsterdam, says :—“ In short, the Kit Cat wants you much more than you ever can do them. Those who remain in town





are in great desire of waiting on you at Barn Elms, not that they have finished their pictures, neither; though, to excuse them as well as myself, Sir Godfrey has been most in fault. The fool has got a country house near Hampton Court, and is so busy in fitting it up (to receive nobody), that there's no getting him to work." Again, July 10th, 1703:—"The Kit Club will never meet without you, so you see here's stagnation for want of you."

Tonson appears to have been in high favour with the members of the Club, for, independently of other civilities, they presented him with their portraits. The Duke of Somerset was the first who set the example, which was quickly followed by the other members. These pictures were executed by Sir Godfrey Kneller. The portraits of the members were originally intended to be hung in the room which Tonson had added to his residence at Barn Elms, for the meetings of the Club, but it not being sufficiently lofty for what are called half-length pictures was the reason of a shorter canvas being used (36 in. long by 28 in. wide), sufficiently long to admit a hand. This occasioned "Kit Cat" to become a technical term in painting for such as were of the same dimensions and form. The portraits were hung in the following order at the time of Tonson's death.



Over the chimney :—

THOMAS HOLLES PELHAM, Duke of Newcastle, and  
HENRY CLINTON, Earl of Lincoln, in one picture.

In the first row :—

- (1) CHARLES SEYMOUR, Duke of Somerset.
- (2) WILLIAM CAVENDISH, Duke of Devonshire.
- (3) CHARLES LENOX, Duke of Richmond.
- (4) CHARLES FITZROY, Duke of Grafton.
- (5) JOHN, Duke of Montague.
- (6) CHARLES SACKVILLE, Earl of Dorset.
- (7) RICHARD LUMLEY, Earl of Scarborough.
- (8) CHARLES HOWARD, Earl of Carlisle.
- (9) RICHARD TEMPLE, Viscount Cobham.
- (10) THOMAS HOPKINS, Esq.

The door (first row continued) :—

- (11) WILLIAM WALSH, Esq.
- (12) ALGERNON CAPEL, Earl of Essex.
- (13) JAMES, Earl of Berkeley.
- (14) JOHN VAUGHAN, Earl of Carberry.
- (15) CHARLES, Lord Cornwallis.
- (16) CHARLES MONTAGUE, Earl of Halifax.
- (17) JOHN SOMERS, Baron of Evesham.
- (18) THOMAS, Earl of Wharton.
- (19) CHARLES MONTAGUE, Duke of Manchester.
- (20) EVELYN PIERPOINT, Marquis of Dorchester.

Chimney, beginning of second row :—

- (21) LIONEL CRANFIELD SACKVILLE, Duke of Dorset.
- (22) CHARLES, Lord Mohun.
- (23) SIR ROBERT WALPOLE.
- (24) SPENCER COMPTON, Earl of Wilmington.
- (25) JAMES STANHOPE, Earl of Stanhope.



- (26) WILLIAM PULTENEY, Earl of Bath.
- (27) JOHN DORMER, Esq.
- (28) JOHN TIDCOMB, Esq.
- (29) ABRAHAM STANYAN, Esq.
- (30) RICHARD BOYLE, Earl of Burlington.

Door, second row continued :—

- (31) SIR GODFREY KNELLER.
- (32) JACOB TONSON.
- (33) SIR JOHN VANBRUGH.
- (34) WILLIAM CONGREVE, Esq.
- (35) JOSEPH ADDISON, Esq.
- (36) SIR SAMUEL GARTH.
- (37) SIR RICHARD STEELE.
- (38) ARTHUR MAYNWARING, Esq.
- (39) GEORGE STEPNEY, Esq.
- (40) FRANCIS, Earl of Godolphin.
- (41) JOHN CHURCHILL, Duke of Marlborough.
- (42) RICHARD BOYLE, Viscount Shannon.
- (43) CHARLES DARTIQUENANE.
- (44) EDWARD HOPKINS, Esq.
- (45) EDMUND DUNCH, Esq.
- (46) THEOPHILUS HASTINGS, Earl of Huntingdon.

making altogether forty-eight portraits. These portraits he in his lifetime gave to his nephew Jacob, probably on his retiring to Ledbury, in Herefordshire, where he had an estate and spent the latter end of his life. On the death of Jacob, great-nephew to old Jacob, they came to his brother Richard, who removed them to his residence at Water Oakley, near Windsor, where he built



a gallery, lighted at the top by a dome, and an ante-room for their reception. They are now in the possession of William Baker, Esq., late M.P. for the county of Hertford, whose father married the eldest daughter of Jacob, the nephew. An amusing story is told, which *si non e vero e ben trovato*, of Sir Richard Phillips, who visited Barn Elms in 1816. He inquired, as became a reverential pilgrim, if "this was the house of Mr. Tonson," but was promptly informed that no "such gentleman was known here," but that probably, since he mentioned a club, "the gentleman," it was suggested, might mean "the club that meets at the public-house on the Common." After much consultation the butler recollected that he had heard mention of the "Philosopher's" room, and here, covered with cobwebs and the dust of years, the pious pilgrim saw chalked on the walls the names of the men whose portraits had been removed. When, in 1883, Barn Elms came into possession of the Ranelagh Club, the old Kit Kat room, with so many sacred memories, was found in the most dilapidated condition, having been used by previous tenants for a laundry, and then as a garden lumber room. Mr. Reginald Herbert at once gave orders for its restoration; and although a fire occurred during the absence of the workmen, it was, fortunately, put out



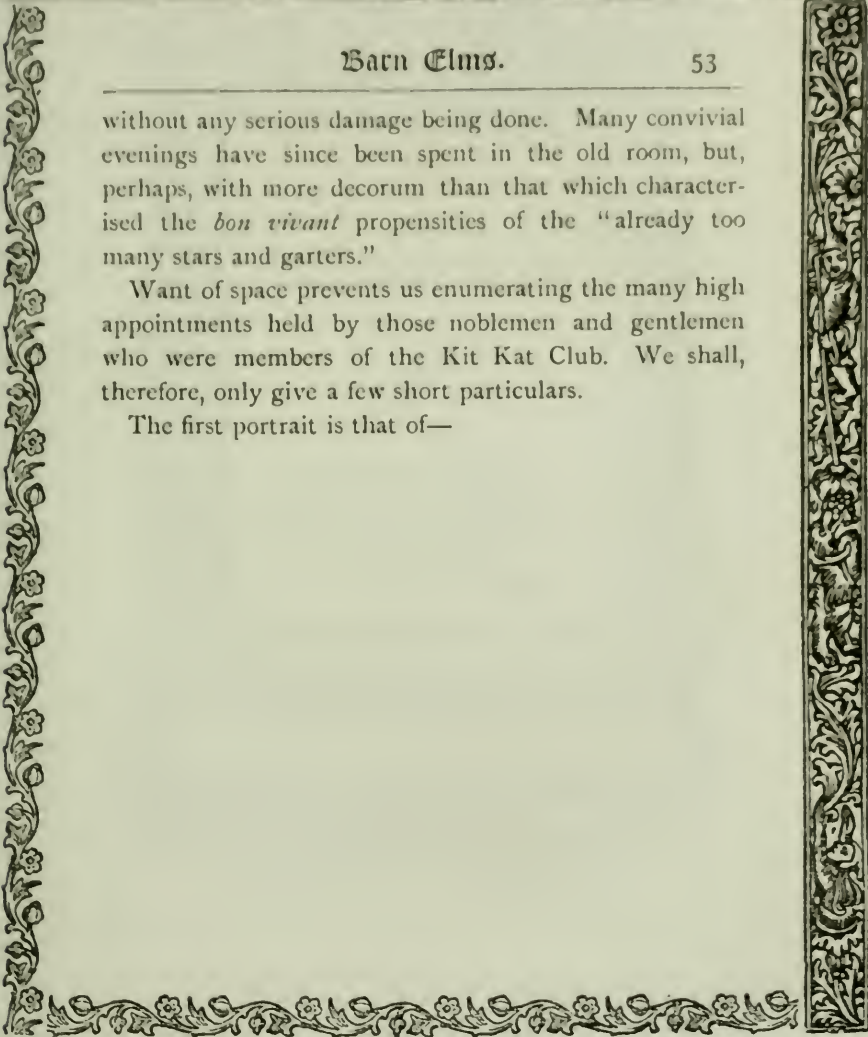




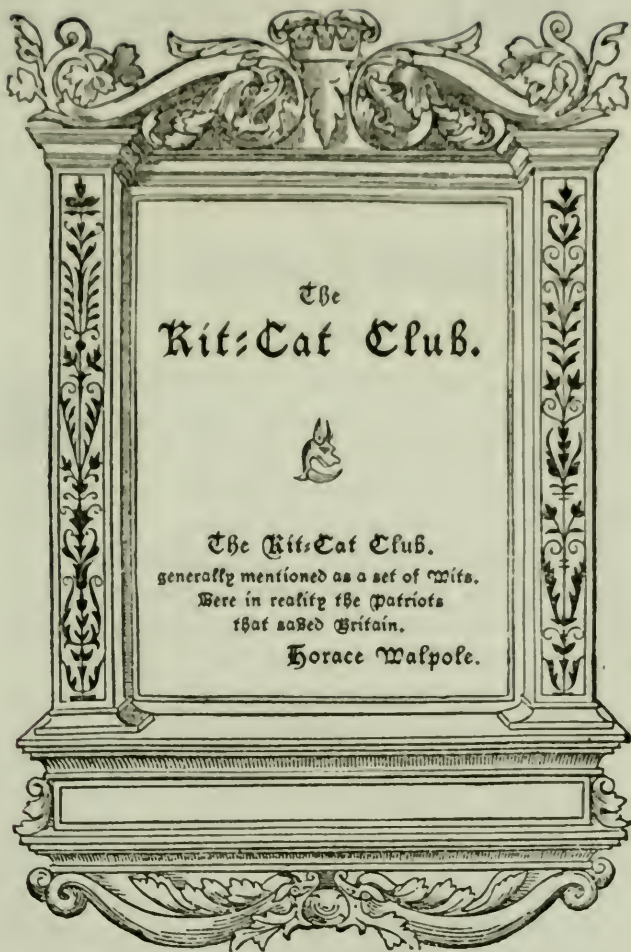
without any serious damage being done. Many convivial evenings have since been spent in the old room, but, perhaps, with more decorum than that which characterised the *bon vivant* propensities of the "already too many stars and garters."

Want of space prevents us enumerating the many high appointments held by those noblemen and gentlemen who were members of the Kit Kat Club. We shall, therefore, only give a few short particulars.

The first portrait is that of—







The  
Kit-Cat Club.



The Kit-Cat Club,  
generally mentioned as a set of Wits,  
were in reality the Patriots  
that saved Britain.  
Horace Walpole.



I.

## Sir Godfrey Kneller.



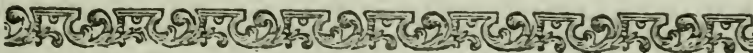
**S**IR GODFREY KNELLER, the celebrated portrait painter, who painted all the others. He was born at Lubeck, in the Duchy of Holstein, about the year 1648. His father, Zachary Kneller, sent him to Leyden for the purpose of receiving instruction in mathematics and fortifications ; but having shown great talent for figure-drawing, he was removed to Amsterdam and placed under the immediate tuition of Rembrandt and Ferdinand Bol. In 1662 he repaired to Rome, and devoted himself to the consideration of the style of Titian and Annibal Caracci, under the auspices of Maratti and other illustrious persons of that day. In 1674 Kneller (with his brother, John Zachary, also a painter) was prevailed upon by his friends to visit England. Soon after his arrival he was introduced to the Duke of Monmouth, who sat to him, and was so pleased with his picture that he persuaded Charles II. to let the new painter take his portrait. On the death of Sir Peter Lely he was appointed portrait painter to the

<sup>1</sup> Charles II., James II. and his Queen, William and Mary, Anne,  
Louis XIV., Peter the Great, Charles VI., and George I.



King, by whom he was sent to France to take the likeness of Louis XIV., but his employer died before he could return. James II. was equally favourable to him, and furnished him with frequent occupation until the Revolution; after which he was patronised by William III., who sent him to paint the plenipotentiaries of Ryswick, and, when he came back, conferred on him the honour of knighthood, with the additional gift of a gold chain, worth £300. The portrait of the Czar Peter was taken by him for the same monarch. Queen Anne continued Kneller in his situation of limner to the Crown, and commissioned him to paint the King of Spain, afterwards Charles VI. His works in the Gallery of Admirals, as well as his pictures of the members of the Kit Kat Club, were executed in the same reign. He lived to draw George I., who created him a baronet, and was the last of ten sovereigns who sat to him.<sup>1</sup>

In 1772 Sir Godfrey Kneller was seized with a violent fever, from the immediate danger of which he was rescued by Doctor Meade. The result, however, was a scorbutic tumour, which settled in his left arm. It was opened, but did not tend to his restoration, for he remained in a languishing condition for some months, and died October 27, 1723. After lying in state several days, his body was buried at Wilton, near Hampton







Court. A monument, executed by Rysbrack, according to the directions of Sir Godfrey, and for the expense of which he left by will £300, was erected for him in Westminster Abbey.

Notwithstanding the loss of some £20,000 in the Southsea Bubble, Kneller died worth an estate of £2,000 a year, which he bequeathed, part to his wife, and entailed the rest on Geoffrey Huckle, his daughter's son, on condition that he should assume the name of Kneller. By his wife, Susannah Crawley, whose father was a clergyman at Henley-on-Thames, he had no issue, so that his daughter, whose surname was Voss, would appear to have been illegitimate. Kneller was a good-natured, lively, and extremely vain man. He was a Justice of the Peace, and it was a well-known joke against him that he acquitted a soldier who had stolen a leg of mutton, and punished the butcher, who had tempted the thief by placing it in an insecure position. He had the most profound belief in the universality of his own genius. "I dreamed last night," he said, at one of those symposia he used to hold in his grand old house with the wits, when the labours of the day were over, "I dreamed that I saw St. Peter beckoning me to a special seat of honour beside St. Luke in Paradise." "Don't you really think, Sir



Godfrey," said Pope, "that if your advice had been asked at the Creation, some things would have been shaped far better than they are?" "'Fore Gad, they would," answered the painter, laying his hand upon the poet's humped back, and thus turning the laugh against him. "As I was sitting by Sir Godfrey Kneller one day, whilst he was drawing a picture, he stopped and said, 'I can't do so well as I should do unless you flatter me a little. Pray flatter me, Mr. Pope; you know I love to be flattered.' I was once willing to try how far his vanity would carry him; and after considering a picture which he had just finished for a good while very attentively, I said to him in French (for he had been talking for some time before in that language), 'On dit dans les Ecritures Saintes, que le bon Dieu faisoit l'homme après son image; mais, je crois que s'il voudroit faire un autre à présent, qu'il le feroit après l'image que voila.' Sir Godfrey turned round and said, very gravely, 'Vous avez raison, Mons. Pope, par Dieu, je le crois aussi.'"

The following anecdotes are related by the younger Richardson, and were given to the world in a posthumous publication, but little known, entitled, "Richardsoniana; or, Occasional Reflections on the Moral Nature of Man," 8vo. 1776. They are too characteristic and curious to be omitted here.



Gay read a copy of verses he had made on Sir Godfrey Kneller to him, in which he had pushed his flattery so far that he was all the while in great apprehension that Sir Godfrey would think himself bantered. When he had heard them through, he said, in his foreign style and accent, "Ay, Mr. Gay, all what you have said is very fine and very true, but you have forgotten one thing, my good friend. By G—, I should have been a General of Army, for when I was at Venice there was a *girandole*, and all the Place St. Mark was in a smoke of gunpowder, and I did like the smell, Mr. Gay. I should have been a great General, Mr. Gay!"

"By G—, I love you, Mr. Cock (said Sir Godfrey to Cock, the auctioneer), and I will do you good; but you must do something for me too, Mr. Cock; one hand can wash the face, but two hands wash one another." Old Jacob Tonson got a great many fine pictures, and two of himself, by this means. Sir Godfrey was very courteous, but then he was very vain and a great glutton; so he played these passions against the other; besides telling him he was the greatest master that ever was, sending him, every now and now, a haunch of vension and dozens of excellent claret. "O, my G—, man (said he once to Vander Gutch), this old Jacob loves me; he is a very good man; you see how he loves me. He sends me good



things ; the venison was fat." Old Geikie, the surgeon, got several fine pictures of him, too, and an excellent one of himself, but then he got them cheaper, for he gave nothing but praises, but his praises were as fat as Jacob's venison : neither could be too fat for Sir Godfrey.

Secretary Craggs brought Dick Estcourt one day to Sir Godfrey Kneller's, where he mimicked several persons whom he knew, as Lords Godolphin, Somers, Halifax, &c. Sir Godfrey was highly delighted, took the joke, and laughed heartily. They then gave him the wink, and he mimicked Sir Godfrey himself, who cried out, "Nay, now you are out, man ; by G—, that is not me."

One day Pope was with Sir Godfrey, when his nephew, a Guinea trader, came in. "Nephew (said Sir Godfrey), you have the honour of seeing the two greatest men in the world." "I don't know how great you may be (said the Guinea man), but I don't like your looks. I have often bought a man, much better than both of you together, all muscles and bones, for ten guineas."

Pope is given as the authority for several anecdotes related by Spence illustrative of his intolerable vanity, in one of which he is made to affirm that he believed he could have assisted the Omnipotence in the creation of the world. On another occasion we learn, from the

<sup>1</sup> He lived in Durham Yard ; then twenty-one years in Covent Garden, in the house which is now the Tavistock Hotel, and which was formerly occupied by Sir Peter Lely. Sir J. Thornhill subsequently tenanted the house, and it was from there that Hogarth eloped with Thornhill's daughter, who at first was furious, but in the end lived to be very proud of his son-in-law ; the marriage, unlike many others, proving an exceeding happy one. And lastly, in Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields.



same authority, that Kneller interpreted the well-known Scriptural declaration : " In my Father's house there are many mansions," in the following irreverent manner :— " At the Day of Judgment," said he, " God will examine mankind on their different professions. To one he will say, Of what sect are you?—I was a Baptist. Go you there. What were you?—A Protestant. Go you there. And you?—A Turk. Go you there. And you, Sir Godfrey?—I was of no sect. Then God will say, Sir Godfrey, choose your place.' Some of his *bon mots* were of a more respectable character. The servants of Dr. Radcliffe, his next-door neighbour, in Great Queen Street,<sup>1</sup> were in the habit of stealing many beautiful flowers from his garden, to which he devoted great attention. Exasperated at their frequent depredations, he sent a message to the Doctor, informing him that he must for the future shut up the door into his garden, through which he had permitted him to have a passage, on account of the ill-conduct of his domestics. The Doctor rejoined, " Tell him he may do anything with it but *paint* it." " And I," answered Sir Godfrey, " will take anything from the Doctor but his physic." Among the portraits by Sir Godfrey Kneller which have attracted most notice we may instance the following :— The converted Chinese ; King William, on a white horse ;

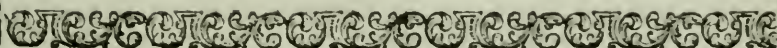
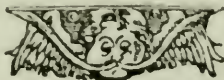
<sup>1</sup> The first print taken from Kneller's work was one by White of this picture.

<sup>2</sup> Seven of the heads only are by Kneller ; the rest by Dahl.



the celebrated Count Beauties, the Duke of Gloucester, Prior, Steele, Sir Walter Rawlinson, his own portrait, Dr. Wallis, the Duke of Buckingham, Sir Isaac Newton, Lady M. W. Montague, Dryden, the Duchess of Grafton, Lady Ranelagh, the Duke of Monmouth, Charles II.,<sup>1</sup> the Czar Peter, the Gallery of Admirals,<sup>2</sup> the Duke of Ormond, George I. The members of the Kit Kat Club, as they were his last, were also among the most esteemed of his works.

The price of his portraits were: a head, fifteen guineas; if with one hand, twenty; a half length, thirty; and a whole length, sixty guineas.





II.

Richard Boyle,  
VISCOUNT SHANNON.



**T**HE only account extant of this nobleman is to be found in Noble's Continuation of Granger, from which we have derived the leading facts of the following brief notice.

Richard Boyle, third and last Viscount Shannon, is said to have served at an early age under the Duke of Ormond, in several of the campaigns in Flanders, during the reign of William III.

In the reign of Queen Anne, his Lordship had the command of the grenadiers at the taking of Rendonello. His superior skill in military tactics, and his great personal courage, were the means of obtaining for him the rank of a general. George I. appointed him, in 1720, Commander in Chief of all the forces in Ireland; one of the Lords Justices of that kingdom in 1724; and





at various other periods made him Captain and Colonel of the fourth troop of Guards, General of Horse, and Field Marshal of all his forces.

His Lordship was twice married : first to the Countess Dowager of Orrery ; and secondly to the daughter of John Senhouse, of Netherhull, Cumberland, Esq., by whom he left a daughter, who was his sole heir. He died in 1740, aged 65 years, and was buried in the parish church of Walton-upon-Thames, where an elegant monument, executed by Roubilliac, was erected at the expense of his daughter.

He was only a short time member of the Kit-Cat Club. His portrait (with that of Walsh and the Earl of Huntingdon) was left unfinished by Sir Godfrey Kneller.



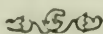




III.

## Robert Walpole,

EARL OF ORFORD.



**T**HE Earl of Orford, better known as Sir Robert Walpole, was the third son of Robert Walpole, Esq., Member of Parliament for Castle Rising, in Norfolk. He was born at the family seat of Houghton, in the same county, on August 27th, 1667, and received the first rudiments of his education in a private school, at Massingham, in Norfolk. He was afterwards entered on the foundation at Eton, where he made considerable progress in classical literature; and in April, 1696, he was removed to King's College, Cambridge. Soon after his admission there, he was seized with the small-pox, a disease, owing to the injudicious manner in which it was treated, at that time extremely dangerous. In consequence of the assiduous attentions of Doctor Brady (the famous historical advocate for the Tory principles of the



English constitution), who was his physician, he soon recovered; when the doctor, who, notwithstanding his political prejudices, was exceedingly partial to his young patient, remarked, "His singular escape seems to me to be a sure indication that he is reserved for important purposes."

On the death of his elder surviving brother, in 1698, Walpole resigned his scholarship. He had been originally destined for the Church, but on the demise of his brother, his views in life having been somewhat altered, he no longer continued to study for that profession.

On July 20th, 1700, he married Catharine, daughter of Sir John Shorter, Lord Mayor of London, a lady of great beauty and elegance of manners; and the amusements of Town succeeded the more active employments of the country. His father died a short time after his marriage, and left him estates to the value of £2000 a year, but charged with his mother's jointure, and the fortunes of the younger children, which amounted to about £9000; an incumbrance which he discharged with his wife's dowry. His mother died in 1711.

Immediately upon the decease of his father, Walpole was elected Member for Castle Riding, and represented that borough in the two short Parliaments in the last two years of the reign of King William; and he now



became an active friend of the Whig party. In 1702 he was chosen Member of Parliament for King's Lynn, in Norfolk, for which borough he sat in the House during several successive Parliaments. Three years afterwards he was nominated one of the council to Prince George of Denmark, as Lord High Admiral of England. In 1708 he was constituted Secretary at War, and, the following year, Treasurer of the Navy, in the room of Sir Thomas Littleton.

In 1711, Walpole was voted by the House of Commons guilty of a high breach of trust and notorious corruption in his office of Secretary at War; and it was decided that he should be committed to the Tower, and expelled the House. For this charge, however, there appears to have been no real foundation. He was constantly visited during his confinement in the Tower by the Duke and Duchess of Marlborough, Godolphin, Sunderland, Somers, and Pulteney; so that his apartment rather resembled a Prime Minister's levee than the prison of a disgraced Member of Parliament.

Walpole was not released from his confinement until June 21st, the ministry having protracted the session by adjournment for the express purpose of keeping him in the Tower.

So manifest was his zeal in the support of his friends,





that when he went to visit Godolphin during his last illness, the dying statesman turned to the Duchess of Marlborough, who sat by him, and said to her, "If you ever forsake that young man, and if souls are permitted to return from the grave to the earth, I will appear to you and reproach you for your conduct."

In 1713 the borough of Lynn Regis once more elected Walpole their representative, and though the House decided in refusing to recognise him as a member, and declared the election null and void, yet they persisted in their choice.

It was not long before he acquired full ministerial power, being appointed First Lord of the Treasury and Chancellor of the Exchequer. On the King's departure for Hanover, in 1723, he was constituted one of the Lords Justices of the Kingdom; and the honour of a peerage was conferred by his Majesty upon his eldest son, then upon his travels.

In 1726 Sir Robert Walpole was installed Knight of the Garter, and the value of this distinction was enhanced by the circumstance of his having been the only commoner, Admiral Montague excepted, on whom this favour was ever conferred.

It has been observed that the continuance of the administration of which Sir Robert Walpole was the





head, was mainly attributable to the influence of Queen Caroline. Many writers have not scrupled to ascribe her zealous patronage to the offers Sir Robert made her to obtain from Parliament a jointure of £100,000 a year, when Sir Spencer Compton could only venture to propose £60,000.

In 1742 Sir Robert Walpole was created Earl of Orford, and a few days after he was confirmed in this title, retired altogether from office.

The final interview between the King and the ex-minister is reported to have been highly affecting. On Walpole's kneeling down to kiss the King's hand, his Majesty burst into tears; which so touched him, that he remained in that posture for some time. When he arose, the King testified his regret for the loss of so faithful a counsellor, spoke with gratitude of his past services, and expressed a hope that he should profit by his advice on important occasions yet to come.

For many years antecedent to his death Walpole had been affected with a very painful and dangerous disorder (the stone). To allay the violence of his sufferings he was obliged to have recourse to opium, which he took in such immoderate quantities as to produce a constant state of stupefaction. A powerful solvent, administered under circumstances of extreme urgency, is said to have been



the immediate cause of his death, which took place on March 18th, 1745, in the sixty-ninth year of his age. His remains were interred in the parish church at Houghton, without monument or inscription.

We shall conclude the present notice of Sir Robert Walpole (or rather the Earl of Orford) with a few anecdotes from various sources, illustrative of his character, public and private.

When Walpole quarrelled with Lord Sunderland, he went over to the Opposition, and, on the debate upon the capital clause in the Mutiny Bill, he made use of this strong expression, "Whoever gives the power of blood, gives blood." The question being carried in favour of the ministry by a small majority, Sir Robert said after the division, "Faith, I was afraid that we had got the question"; his good sense (observes Mr. Seward, from whom this anecdote is quoted) perfectly enabling him to see that armies could not be kept in order without strict discipline, and the power of life and death.

Walpole had always very exact intelligence of all that was passing at the Court of the Pretender. When Alderman Barber visited the Minister after his return from Rome, he asked him how his old friend, the Pretender, did. The Alderman was much surprised; Sir R. then related some minute particulars of a con-

<sup>1</sup> See Mr. Nichols' valuable anecdotes.

versation which had taken place between them. "Well then, Jack," said Sir Robert, "go, and sin no more, lest a worse thing befall thee."

In a squabble between Mr. Pulteney and Sir R. Walpole, in the House of Commons, the former playfully told his antagonist that his *Latin* was not so good as his *politics*. Pulteney insisted that Walpole had misquoted a line from Horace, which he was not disposed to admit. A wager of a guinea was immediately staked on the question by each party, and Harding, the clerk of the House, was applied to as arbiter, who rose with ludicrous solemnity, and gave it against his patron. The guinea was thrown across the House, which Pulteney took up, saying it was the first *public money* he had touched for a long time—he had formerly been in office. At his death this guinea was discovered, carefully preserved in a piece of paper, with a memorandum upon it recording the circumstance.<sup>1</sup>

Walpole was accustomed to say, when speaking of corruption, "We ministers are often called, and are sometimes, tempters, but we are oftener tempted."

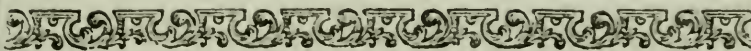
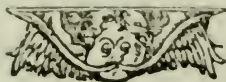
As a proof of Walpole's profuse liberality to those who advocated his cause, we may instance the following anecdote. About 1735 some severe pamphlets were published against his administration. Among others was





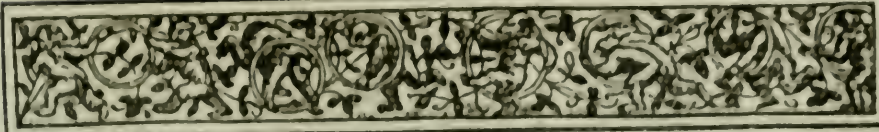
a poem entitled, "Are these things so?" A young gentleman of nineteen years of age took it into his head to write an answer to this piece, to which he gave the title of "Yes, they are." Sir Robert was so pleased with it, although but an insignificant performance, that he sent for Roberts the publisher, and expressed his great satisfaction at the compliment paid him, by giving a bank note for a hundred pounds, which he desired him to present to the author.

In person Sir Robert Walpole was tall and well proportioned ; and so well looking, that in his youth he and his wife were called the *handsome couple*. As he advanced in years he became corpulent and unwieldy. His countenance was open and expressive ; his eye being full of fire, and his brow prominent and manly.



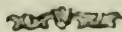






IV.

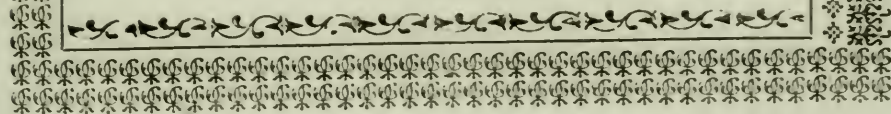
## Sir John Vanbrugh.



**S**IR JOHN VANBRUGH, more deservedly celebrated as a dramatic writer than as an architect, was descended from a French family, for many years resident in Cheshire; his name, however, would induce us to believe that he was originally of Dutch extraction. The date of his birth has not been recorded; it was probably about the middle of Charles the Second's reign.

In 1698, Vanbrugh brought out his comedy of "Æsop," at Drury Lane, but this in a great measure failed. "The False Friend" was acted in 1702. In August, 1716, owing probably to the reputation for talent he had acquired by his comedies, as well as to his acknowledged skill as an architect, Vanbrugh was appointed Clarencieux King at Arms, and Surveyor of the Works at Greenwich Hospital.

Sir John Vanbrugh died of a quinsey at his house in







Whitehall on the 26th of March, 1726. He was a man of much mirth and vivacity. Misfortunes never dulled the sprightliness of his imagination. He was as cheerful in the Bastile (where he was confined for taking sketches of the French fortifications, during a temporary residence in that country), as at the British court, and seems to have written with the same ease. His most celebrated architectural works are as follows :—

St. John's Church, Westminster.

Castle Howard, in Yorkshire.

Eastberry, in Dorsetshire.

King's Weston, near Bristol.

Easton Neston, in Northamptonshire.

One front of Grimstorp.

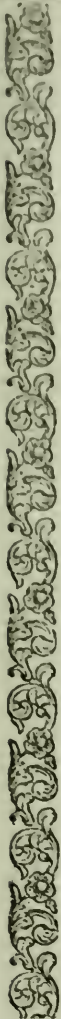
Mr. Duncombe's in Yorkshire.

Two small Castles, at Greenwich.

The Opera House, in the Haymarket.

The epitaph on Sir John Vanbrugh, said to have been written by Dr. Evans, is not without point :—

Lie heavy on him, Earth, for he  
Laid many a heavy load on thee.





## Sir Samuel Garth.



**S**IR SAMUEL GARTH was descended from a respectable family in Yorkshire. After having received such instruction as it was in the power of a country schoolmaster to afford, he was placed by his father at Peterhouse College, Cambridge ; where he continued to reside until July 7th, 1691, when he obtained the degree of Doctor of Physic.

Garth was in politics a decided Whig. He was a member of the Kit-Cat Club from its commencement, and always strenuously promoted the main object of that society. Coming one night to the Club, he declared he must soon be gone, having many patients to attend, but some good wine being produced he forgot them. Sir Richard Steele was of the party, and reminding him of the visits he had to pay, Garth immediately pulled out his list, which numbered fifteen, and said, "It's no great matter whether I see them to night or not, for nine of them have such bad constitutions that all the physicians in the world can't save them, and the other six have such

<sup>1</sup> We have been able to collect no information as to his marriage, but it is certain that he left behind him a daughter, who was married to the Honorable Colonel W. Boyle, whose son inherited the property and estates of his grandfather.

good constitutions that all the physicians in the world can't kill them." In 1702 he was elected one of the Censors of the College of Physicians.

On the accession of George I., Garth had the honour of being knighted with the sword of the Duke of Marlborough. Besides this proof of his sovereign's consideration, he was appointed king's physician, and physician general to the army. In 1711, when George I. was Elector of Brunswick, Garth had written a dedication to him of an intended edition of Lucretius; but this does not appear ever to have been proceeded in. The last of his literary works was an edition of Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, translated by various hands, in which he rendered the whole fourteenth book, and the story of Cippus in the fifteenth. It was published in 1717, and he prefixed a preface, in which he has developed very respectable powers as a critic and commentator.

Sir Samuel Garth died after a short, but painful illness, which he bore with exemplary fortitude, on January 18th, 1718—1719.<sup>1</sup> His religious principles, until a few years previous to his death, appear to have been somewhat unsettled. "He was rather doubtful and fearful, than religious," observes Pope: "it was usual for him to say, that if there was any such thing as religion it was among the Roman Catholics. Probably from the greater efficacy

<sup>1</sup> Spence's Anecdotes, edited by Mr. Singer.



we give the Sacraments. He died a Papist, as I was assured by Mr. Blount, who carried the father to him in his last hours. He did not take any care of himself in his last illness ; and had talked for three or four years as one tired of life ; in short, I believe he was willing to let it go." <sup>1</sup> That he was sceptical in the earlier part of his life is beyond doubt ; and that he died in the profession of the Roman Catholic faith is equally certain.

We shall conclude this notice with his verses written for the toasting glasses of the Kit-Cat Club.

LADY CARLISLE.

Carlisle's a name can every mus inspire,  
To Carlisle fill the glass and tune the lyre :—  
With his loved bays the god of day shall crown  
A wit and lustre equal to his own.

THE SAME.

At once the Sun and Carlisle took their way,  
To warm the frozen north, and kindle day ;  
The flowers to both their glad creation owed—  
Their virtues he, their beauties she bestowed.

LADY ESSEX.

The bravest hero and the brightest dame,  
From Belgia's happy clime Britannia drew ;  
One pregnant cloud we find does often frame  
The awful thunder, and the gentle dew.



LADY ESSEX.

To Essex fill the sprightly wine,  
The health's engaging and divine ;  
Let purest odours scent the air,  
And wreaths of roses bind our hair.  
In her chaste lips there blushing lie,  
And there her gentle sighs supply.

LADY HYDE.

The god of wine grows jealous of his heart ;  
He only fires the head, but Hyde the heart.  
The queen of love looks on and smiles to see  
A nymph more mighty than a deity.

ON LADY HYDE IN CHILDBED.

Hyde, tho' in agonies, her graces keeps,  
A thousand charms the nymph's complaints adorn :  
In tears of dew so mild Aurora weeps,  
But her bright offspring is the cheerful morn.

LADY WHARTON.

When Jove to Ida did the gods invite,  
And in immortal toasting passed the night.  
With more than nectar he the banquet blessed,  
For Wharton was the Venus of the feast.



VI.

## Sir Richard Steele.



**R**ICHARD STEELE, although of English extraction, was born in Dublin, in 1675. His father was a counsellor-at-law, and Private Secretary to James, the first Duke of Ormond, and at one time possessed considerable landed property, in the county of Wexford. He died before his son had attained the age of five years, leaving a beautiful young widow to lament his loss.

Soon after the decease of his father, young Steele was placed by the Duke of Ormond, who happened to be one of the governors, at the Charter House, where he became acquainted with Addison. From this seminary he was removed to Merton College, Oxford, and his name stands at the head of the postmasters admitted that year.

The same year that gave publicity to his *Christian Hero* (1701), produced also Steele's first successful comedy, "*The Funeral, or Grief à la Mode*," which was acted the following year.



His next appearance as an author, as he himself informs us, was in the office of Gazetteer.

His next productions were comedies: "The Tender Husband, or the Accomplished Fools," was acted in 1708. The following year he wrote a play in conformity with the suggestions of that coarse old hypocrite Jeremy Collier, whose philippics upon the profaneness of the English stage seem to have made a more than due impression upon Steele.

Disappointed and disgusted at what he deemed the unmerited fate of his "Lover," Steele ceased to write for the stage for a period of eighteen years. In 1722 he brought out "The Conscious Lovers," which met with unbounded success, and deservedly so, as it happens to be one of the best comedies in the language. The profits arising from the theatre and sale of the copyright were very considerable. The play was dedicated to the King (George I.), who presented the author with a purse of five hundred pounds.

It was in 1709 that Steele commenced *The Tatler*, the first number of which was published on April 12th of that year.

The first number of *The Spectator* appeared on March 1st, 1711, two months after the discontinuance of *The Tatler*. The plan of this work was arranged between





Steele and Addison ; the papers were continued daily without interruption, until December 6th, 1712, when the seventh volume was completed. It was resumed on June 18th, 1714, and was published thrice a week, to December 28th of that year, when another volume being completed, it was finally closed.

Partly in consequence of a quarrel with old Tonson, and partly because he wished to devote himself more particularly to political matters, Steele discontinued *The Guardian* somewhat abruptly (after having published one hundred and seventy-five numbers), in favour of *The Englishman*, a paper which commenced on October 6th, 1713, a few days after he had closed *The Guardian*, and which in the end, subjected him to a prosecution from the House of Commons.

With a view to serve in the last Parliament of Queen Anne, he resigned his situation of Commissioner of the Stamp Office (to which he had been elected by the Whigs), in June, 1713, and was chosen member for the borough of Stockbridge, in Hampshire ; but he had not long occupied his seat in the House ere he was expelled for writing one of the numbers of *The Englishman* and "The Crisis." The latter series of essays was entirely devoted to political purposes. He was voted guilty of reflecting upon Her Majesty, upon the nobility, gentry,





clergy, and universities of this kingdom, maliciously insinuating that the Protestant succession in the House of Hanover is in danger under Her Majesty's administration, &c. ; and although warmly defended by Addison, the Walpoles, Lords Finch, Lumley, and Hinchinbroke, did not escape unscathed. The charge against him was confirmed by a majority of 245 to 152.

Sir Richard Steele was twice married. His first lady was the sister of a rich planter at Barbadoes, who left, at his decease, the whole of his possessions to his brother-in-law. On the death of Mrs. Steele, without issue, Sir Richard married Mary, daughter of Jonathan Scurlock, Esq., of Llangunnor, in Caermarthenshire, a beautiful young lady, about eight or nine and twenty, with whom he received an estate of nearly £1,000 a year.

His second wife, however, was of a disposition as opposite to his own as can well be imagined, being, if not downright avaricious, at least anxiously prudent and unremitting in her attention to pecuniary matters. Her economy appears to have made but little beneficial alteration in her husband, who continued, after his marriage with her, the same course of reckless prodigality which he had always been accustomed to pursue. Notwithstanding the dissimilarity of their minds, he was certainly most fondly attached to her ; and if their bickerings were

<sup>1</sup> Many of these precious documents are preserved by Mr. Nichols in his "Epistolary Correspondence of Sir R. Steele." The following may be taken as a specimen :—

"Dear Prue,

"Don't be displeas'd that I do not come home till eleven o'clock.

"Your obliged husband,

"R. STEELE."

"Dear Prue,

"I beg of you not to be impatient, though it be an hour or two before you see

"Your obliged husband,

"R. STEELE."

"Dear Prue,

"Forgive me dining abroad, and let Nele carry the papers to Buckley's.

"Your fond devoted,

"R. S."

"Dear Prue,

"I am sleepy and tired, but could not think of closing my eyes till I had told you.

"I am, dearest creature, your most affectionate, faithful husband,

"R. STEELE."

frequent and bitter when they were left to each other's society, they were even less happy and contented apart. He could not endure a day's absence without writing half a dozen passionate notes to her. In the midst of dinner he has been known to rise, in order to dispatch a few lines to Prue (for this was the name by which, in fondness and reproach, he was accustomed to designate her) to assure her of his affection since noon.<sup>1</sup>

The decease of Lady Steele took place on the 26th December, 1718, at the age of forty years. She was buried in Westminster Abby. She brought her husband four children, two sons and two daughters. The former died, one in infancy, and the other before he had attained to manhood. One of the daughters also, Mary, died at a very early age, and the other, Elizabeth, married in May, 1731, the Honourable John Trevor, of Burnham, who had issue by her one daughter, named Diana.

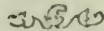







VII.

John Tidcomb, Esq.



OHN TIDCOMB was born somewhere in Devonshire. His origin in life is said to have been of the humblest description; and for his subsequent elevation he was indebted entirely to his own merits, integrity, and industry. He was admitted when very young into the army, and by dint of these good qualities, and a touch of heroism and enterprise, passed through the intermediate gradations of rank to that of a colonel. He was appointed to command a regiment of foot in this capacity in 1700, at which time he is reported to have been one of the band of gentleman pensioners. Indeed, he seems to have obtained his colonelcy some years before, for we are told that he held this rank when he accompanied King William to Oxford, November 9th, 1695, when with several other favoured persons who attended the king, he was honoured with the degree of Doctor of Laws. Of this Salmon relates a curious circumstance:—"After making a tour through





several counties, William came to Oxford, where a magnificent entertainment was provided for him ; but he refused to sit down and eat with them, discouraged, as it is supposed, by an idle letter dropped in the street, intimating a design to poison him. However this might have been, he immediately left that place for Windsor, giving as a reason for his short stay, and not visiting the colleges, that 'he intended this as a visit of kindness, not of curiosity, having seen the University before.' "

From a brigadier Tidcomb was promoted to a majority, March 8th, 1705 ; and three years afterwards was constituted a Lieutenant-General, and distinguished himself in the respective services of William III. and Queen Anne. The regiment of foot of which Tidcomb had the command was raised in the reign of James II., and given originally to Sir Edward Hales, Bart., subsequently ennobled by James after his abdication ; but Hales withdrawing with his pusillanimous Majesty, it was presented to Colonel Beveridge, and upon his decease to Colonel Tidcomb, who remained in the command of it until his death, which took place in June, 1718.

Tidcomb was as much celebrated for his wit as his valour, and as a member of the Kit-Cat Club has been associated with the first humorists of the age.





VIII.

## William Pulteney,

EARL OF BATH.



**T**HE ancestors of this eminent statesman derived their surname from a place so entitled in Leicestershire. His grandfather, Sir William Pulteney, was Member of Parliament for the city of Westminster, and particularly distinguished himself in the House of Commons for his manly and spirited eloquence. Of his father there is little upon record, save his birth, marriage, and decease.

William Pulteney, his eldest son, was born in 1682, and received the rudiments of his education at Westminster school; from whence he was removed to Christ Church, Oxford; where he so eminently distinguished himself by his talents and industry, that he was appointed by Dean Aldrich to make the congratulatory speech to Queen Anne. On his return from a continental tour he came into Parliament for the borough of



Heydon, in Yorkshire, by means of Mr. Guy, his patron and protector, who left him £40,000 and an estate of £500 a year.

During the whole reign of Queen Anne, Pulteney warmly espoused the side of the Whigs, and rendered himself particularly conspicuous by his determined opposition to Sir Robert Walpole.

On the accession of George I. Mr. Pulteney was appointed Privy Councillor and Secretary at War, in opposition to the inclination of the Duke of Marlborough, who considered himself, as Commander in Chief, entitled to the privilege of nominating one of his friends to that situation.

He became early in life a member of the Kit-Cat Club, and was on terms of intimacy both with Addison and Steele, who inscribed to him the second volume of *The Guardian*.



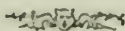




IX.

Evelyn Pierpoint,

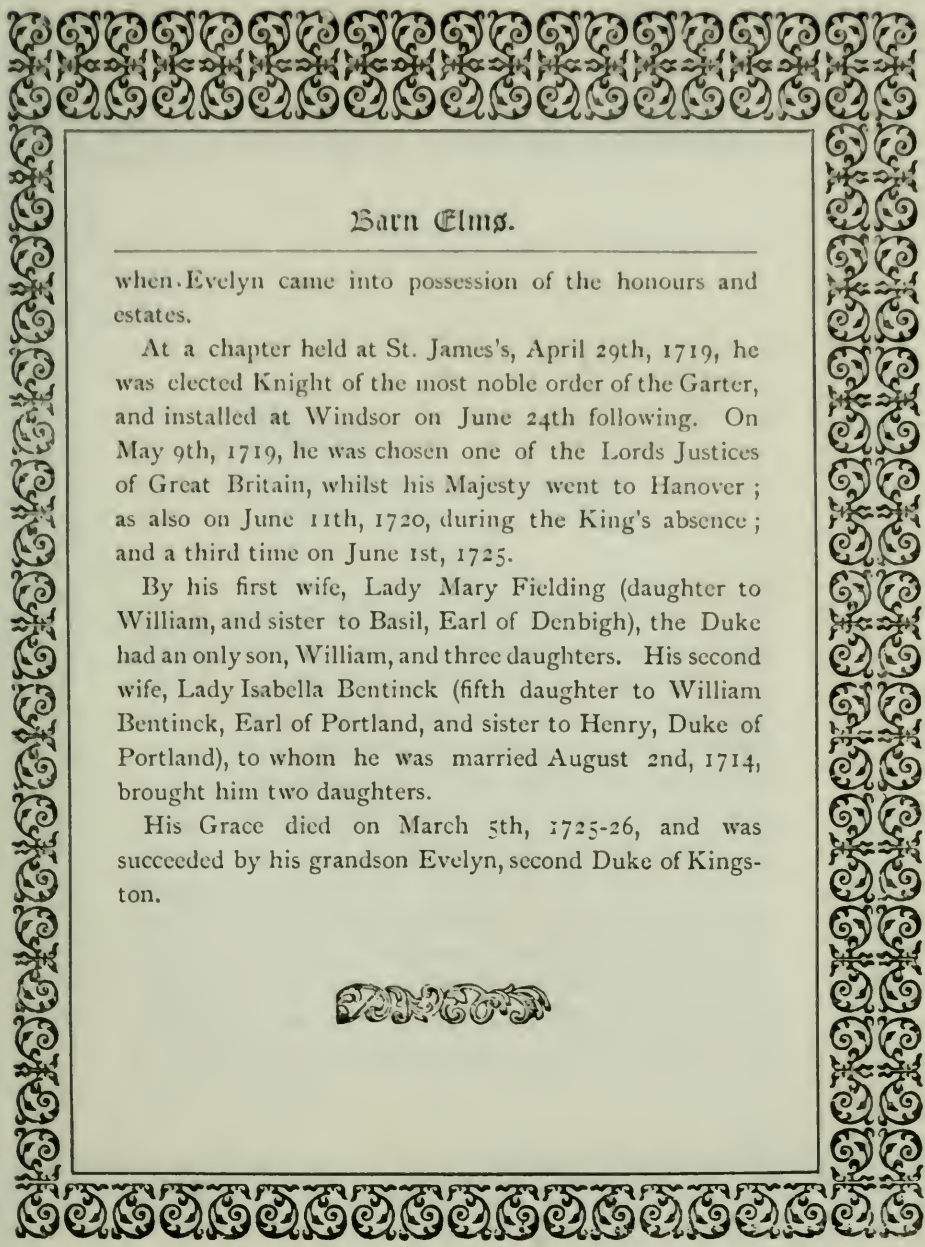
DUKE OF KINGSTON.



**F**EW persons have been more fortunate than Evelyn, Duke of Kingston. He was related to a younger branch of the family of Pierpoint, Earl of Kingston. His father, Robert Pierpoint, married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Evelyn, of Westdeane, in Wiltshire, and left issue by her a daughter, Gertrude (married to William Cheyne, Viscount of Newhaven); and three sons, Robert, William, and the subject of the present notice. On the death of his great-uncle Henry, Marquis of Dorchester, in 1680, Robert succeeded to the title of Earl of Kingston; but dying two years afterwards unmarried at Dieppe, in France, whilst upon his travels, the earldom descended to his second brother, William, who married Anne, eldest daughter of Lord Brooke, but departed this life without issue in September, 1690;







### Barn Elms.

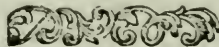
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when Evelyn came into possession of the honours and estates.

At a chapter held at St. James's, April 29th, 1719, he was elected Knight of the most noble order of the Garter, and installed at Windsor on June 24th following. On May 9th, 1719, he was chosen one of the Lords Justices of Great Britain, whilst his Majesty went to Hanover; as also on June 11th, 1720, during the King's absence; and a third time on June 1st, 1725.

By his first wife, Lady Mary Fielding (daughter to William, and sister to Basil, Earl of Denbigh), the Duke had an only son, William, and three daughters. His second wife, Lady Isabella Bentinck (fifth daughter to William Bentinck, Earl of Portland, and sister to Henry, Duke of Portland), to whom he was married August 2nd, 1714, brought him two daughters.

His Grace died on March 5th, 1725-26, and was succeeded by his grandson Evelyn, second Duke of Kingston.










X.

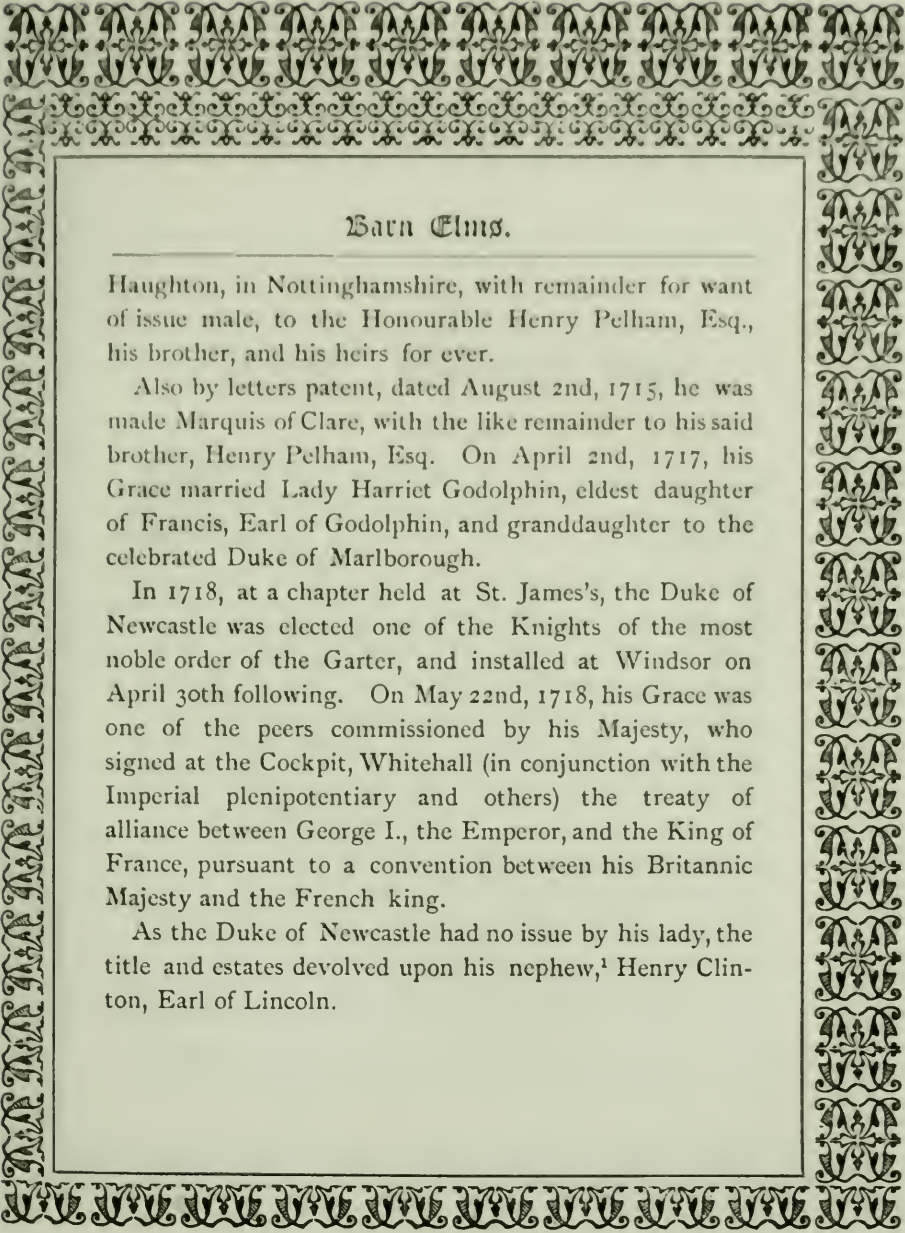
Thomas Holles,  
DUKE OF NEWCASTLE.



**T**HOMAS HOLLES PELHAM, Duke of Newcastle, was born on August 1st, 1693 ; and by the last will and testament of his maternal uncle, John Holles, Duke of Newcastle (who died July 15th, 1711, in consequence of a fall from his horse) was adopted his heir, and authorised to bear the name and arms of Holles. On the accession of George I. he was constituted, October 10, 1714, Lord-Lieutenant of the county of Middlesex, and Custos Rotulorum of the county of Nottingham ; likewise on October 22nd of the same year, Steward Keeper and Warden of the forest of Sherwood and park of Folewood. in the said county of Nottingham. Moreover, a few days afterwards his Majesty was pleased to create him, by letters patent, bearing date October 26th, 1714, Earl of Clare, in Suffolk, and Viscount



<sup>1</sup> In the original paintings of Sir Godfrey Kneller's portraits the Duke of Newcastle and his nephew were included in one frame, and adorned the chimney-piece of the club-room.



### Barn Elms.

Haughton, in Nottinghamshire, with remainder for want of issue male, to the Honourable Henry Pelham, Esq., his brother, and his heirs for ever.

Also by letters patent, dated August 2nd, 1715, he was made Marquis of Clare, with the like remainder to his said brother, Henry Pelham, Esq. On April 2nd, 1717, his Grace married Lady Harriet Godolphin, eldest daughter of Francis, Earl of Godolphin, and granddaughter to the celebrated Duke of Marlborough.

In 1718, at a chapter held at St. James's, the Duke of Newcastle was elected one of the Knights of the most noble order of the Garter, and installed at Windsor on April 30th following. On May 22nd, 1718, his Grace was one of the peers commissioned by his Majesty, who signed at the Cockpit, Whitehall (in conjunction with the Imperial plenipotentiary and others) the treaty of alliance between George I., the Emperor, and the King of France, pursuant to a convention between his Britannic Majesty and the French king.

As the Duke of Newcastle had no issue by his lady, the title and estates devolved upon his nephew,<sup>1</sup> Henry Clinton, Earl of Lincoln.





XI.

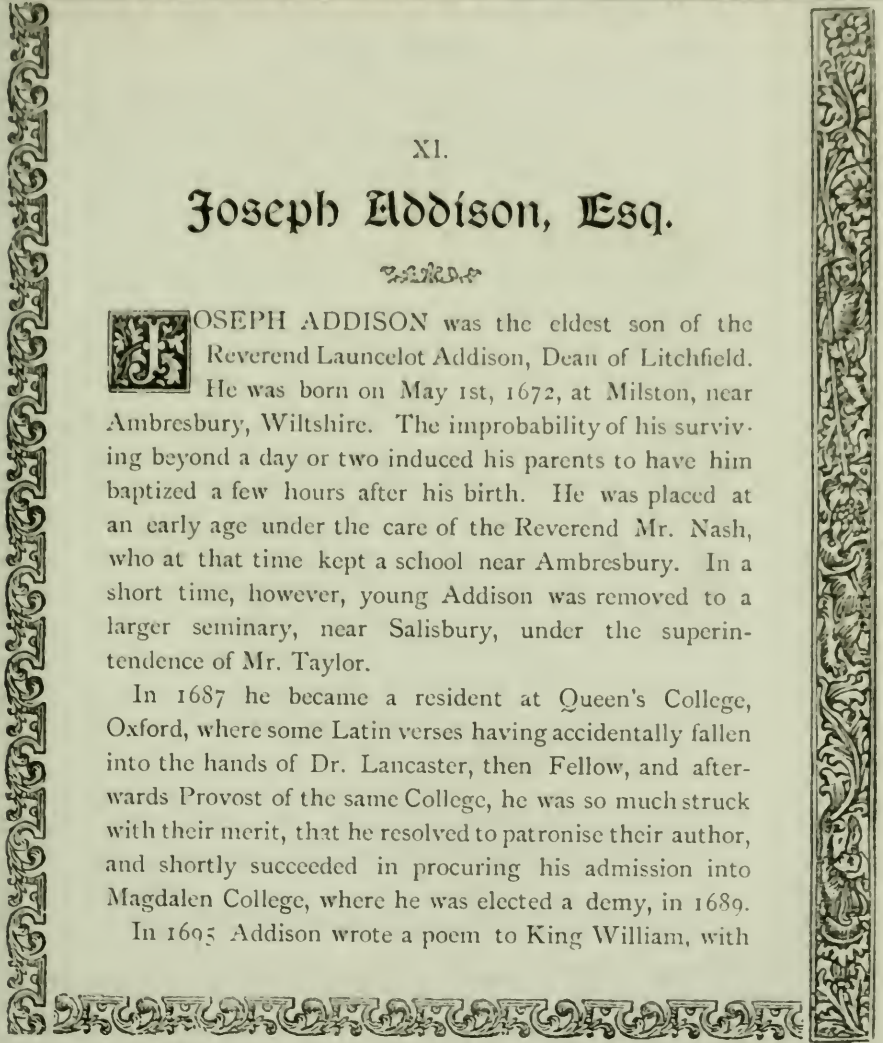
## Joseph Addison, Esq.

1672-1719

**J**OSEPH ADDISON was the eldest son of the Reverend Launcelot Addison, Dean of Litchfield. He was born on May 1st, 1672, at Milston, near Ambresbury, Wiltshire. The improbability of his surviving beyond a day or two induced his parents to have him baptized a few hours after his birth. He was placed at an early age under the care of the Reverend Mr. Nash, who at that time kept a school near Ambresbury. In a short time, however, young Addison was removed to a larger seminary, near Salisbury, under the superintendence of Mr. Taylor.

In 1687 he became a resident at Queen's College, Oxford, where some Latin verses having accidentally fallen into the hands of Dr. Lancaster, then Fellow, and afterwards Provost of the same College, he was so much struck with their merit, that he resolved to patronise their author, and shortly succeeded in procuring his admission into Magdalen College, where he was elected a demy, in 1689.

In 1695 Addison wrote a poem to King William, with







an introduction in rhyme, addressed to Lord Somers, who was much pleased with the compliment.

Of the manners and habits of Addison comparatively little can be now known. Had Steele fulfilled his promise to Congreve of presenting to the world a full-length portrait of his friend, we should probably have beheld a picture of Addison, as correct and minute as those delineated of Johnson and Cowper by Boswell and Hayley.

Of his taciturnity and timidity in conversation we have many examples ; and although he could make it the subject of his own ingenious raillery, he was never able thoroughly to get the better of it. It is related of him that on the debate of the Union Act in the House of Commons, he rose from his seat, and addressing the Speaker, commenced, "Mr. Speaker, I conceive"—but could go no further ; and after repeating the words several times, sat down and remained silent ; when a young member, possessed of more effrontery and volubility, got up and said, "Mr. Speaker, I am sorry to find that the Honourable Gentleman over the way has *conceived* three times, and brought forth nothing."

Of the course of Addison's familiar day we give Dr. Johnson's account, founded upon the reports of Pope and Spence :—

"He had in his house with him Budgell, and perhaps



Phillips. His chief companions were Steele, Budgell, Phillips, Carey, Davenant, and Colonel Brett. With one or other of these he always breakfasted. He studied all the morning ; then dined at a tavern, and went afterwards to Button's.

"Button had been a servant in the Countess of Warwick's family, who, under the patronage of Addison, kept a coffee-house on the south side of Russel Street, about two doors from Covent Garden. Here it was that the wits of that time used to assemble. It is said, when Addison had suffered any vexation from the Countess, he withdrew the company from Button's house."

Jeremiah Markland vindicated Addison from the malice of Pope in a copy of verses inscribed to the Countess of Warwick ; they conclude thus :—

" Oh, Pope ! forbear henceforth to vex the Muse,  
 Whilst forced a task so hateful she pursues ;  
 No more let empty words to rhymes be brought  
 And fluent sounds atone for want of thought.  
 Still Addison shall live, and pregnant fame  
 Teem with eternal triumphs of his name ;  
 Still shall his country hold him more endeared,  
 Loved by this age and by the next revered.  
 Or if from good advice you turn your ear,  
 Nor friendly words imparted timely hear,  
 Exert your utmost energy of spite,  
 And as each envious hint arises, write—  
 So shall his deathless glory never cease,  
 And you by lessening will his fame increase."



## George Stepney, Esq.



**D**R. JOHNSON has given us a notice, but a very brief one, of this gentleman; Noble's account of him is also very scanty; both of them appear to have been constructed upon the biography given of him in Cibber's (or rather Shiel's) "Lives of the Poets."

George Stepney was born in London, in 1663. He was descended from the ancient and respectable family of the Stepneys, of Pendigrast, in Pembrokeshire. Cole has stated that his father was a grocer. This does not seem likely. He was probably either son or grandson of Charles, third son of Sir John Stepney, the first baronet of that family. He was removed from Westminster School (where he received the early part of his education) to Trinity College, Cambridge, in 1682. He took his degree of Bachelor of Arts three years afterwards; and that of Master of Arts in 1689. Stepney owed his first



introduction in life with his associate and friend Charles Monatgue, Earl of Halifax, to the kindness of that universal patron, the Duke of Dorset. In 1692 he was sent Envoy to the Elector of Brandenburg; in 1693 to the Imperial Court; in 1694 to the Elector of Saxony; in 1696 to the Electors of Mentz and Cologne, and the Congress at Frankfort; in 1698 a second time to Brandenburg; in 1699 to the King of Poland; in 1701 again to the Emperor; and in 1706 to the States General. In 1697 he was made one of the Commissioners of Trade.

On his first *début* in the world, Stepney's political principles appear to have inclined towards Toryism. One of his earliest poems was an address to James II. upon his accession to the throne. A short time after Monmouth's rebellion broke out, the Cambridgemen, as a testimony of their zeal for the King, destroyed the picture of that prince, who had formerly been Chancellor of the University; on which occasion Stepney wrote some verses in his praise.

After the Revolution he declared himself decidedly for the Whigs, and was accordingly nominated to the several appointments already enumerated.

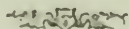
Stepney died at Chelsea, in 1707, and was buried in Westminster Abbey.





XIII.

Abraham Stanyan, Esq.



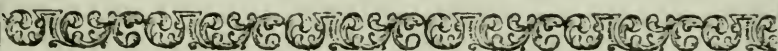
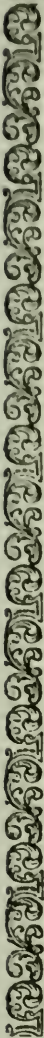
**A**BRAHAM STANYAN gave earnest at an early age of very considerable talents, in the capacity of Clerk of the Council Extraordinary, and was a most valuable servant of the Crown, particularly as a diplomatist. His first appointment was that of Envoy Extraordinary to the Swiss cantons, in 1707; and July 6th, 1716, he was constituted Envoy Extraordinary to His Imperial and Catholic Majesty. About the same time he was also collated to a commissionership of the Admiralty. In October, 1717, he was sent as ambassador to the Ottoman Court, during which absence he was chosen Clerk of the Council, and the duties of his situation were performed by a deputy until his return. He made some stay at Constantinople, where he was at length succeeded as envoy by Sir Edward Fawkener. When he came back to England, his office of Clerk of the Council was filled by his brother, Mr. Temple





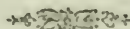
Stanyan, who had been regularly appointed to the situation, probably with his consent and concurrence. In lieu, therefore, of the employment in which he had been thus superseded, he was made one of the Clerks of the Privy Seal Office.

Abraham Stanyan died at his seat in Buckinghamshire, greatly esteemed, on September 11th, 1732. Both of the brothers were authors. Abraham published an account of Switzerland (where he had resided a year or two in a public capacity), which was very generally read and approved at that time. Temple had also compiled a "History of Greece," and wrote the inscription for the pedestal of the statue of George II. at Greenwich.





## John Dormer, Esq.



**T**HERE has been some confusion in the attempts of Bromley, Noble, and others, to identify this gentleman. The officer erroneously stated in Granger to have been a member of the Kit-Cat Club, was Lieutenant-Colonel (*James*) Dormer, who fell mortally wounded at the battle of Almanaza, in 1707. He was, in all probability, related to the subject of the present sketch, but in what way it is not easy at this distance of time to determine. His name has, however, been uniformly confounded with that of John Dormer, Esq., Colonel of the second regiment of horse-grenadier-guards, with the additional rank of a Brigadier-General.

The Kit-Cat Pictures were the last of Sir Godfrey Kneller's painting (who died in 1723), and were left in an unfinished state. It is, therefore, quite impossible that the Colonel Dormer who fell at Almanaza, in 1707, and who had been employed several years on foreign service,





could have been a member of the Kit-Cat Club. It must, consequently, have been Brigadier-General (John) Dormer, of the Guards, whose portrait has been transmitted among those of that celebrated association. Little is known and recorded of him, save that he was engaged in the Royal cause, in 1715, during the Rebellion; and with the troops under his command took the town of Preston, in Lancashire, by setting fire to their barricade; on which occasion he was severely wounded.

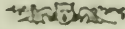
Brigadier-General (John) Dormer died December 24th, 1741. The date of his birth has not been ascertained.







## Edmund Dunch, Esq.



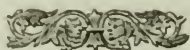
**E**DMUND DUNCH, ESQ., was the descendant of a noble family, and was allied by marriage to persons of the highest consequence in this country. His interest and inclination coinciding, he assisted actively in the Revolution, and was chosen to represent Cricklade, Boroughbridge, and Wallingford, during several successive Parliaments. His grandfather was a steadfast Republican, and distantly related to Oliver Cromwell, who created him Baron Burnell, of East Wittenham ; and in return had his adjuvancy in all the measures he adopted to achieve the object of his ambition, the rule and government of the kingdom.

Edward Dunch was at an early age introduced at Court, and was highly favoured, both by Queen Anne and George I. He had the honour to fill the post of Gentleman of the Horse to both those sovereigns. Dunch's birth is said to have taken place about 1657.

<sup>1</sup> (1) Elizabeth, (2) Harriet, (3) Catherine, (4) Arabella.

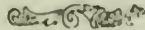
He was married young to one of the daughters and co-heiresses of Colonel Godfrey, by Arabella Churchill, sister of the great Duke of Marlborough. By this lady, who died much respected by all who had the pleasure of her acquaintance, Mr. Dunch had four daughters.<sup>1</sup> His prospects in life were greatly benefited by his connexion with the Churchills. His mother-in-law, it will be remembered, had been mistress to James II., by whom she had James Fitz James, Duke of Berwick ; Henry Fitz James, Grand Prior and Admiral of France ; and Henrietta, married to Henry Lord Waldegrave. By Colonel Godfrey she had one daughter, married to Lord Viscount Falmouth. It was a remarkable coincidence that he should have been a descendant of the Cromwells, and that Mrs. Dunch should have been half-sister to the children of James II.

Mr. Dunch died in 1719, and was buried in the family vault at Wittenham.





## William Walsh, Esq.



**T**HIS gentleman, better known by his criticisms and gallantries than by his poetry, was the son of Joseph Walsh, Esq., of Abberley, in Worcestershire, and was born, according to Wood, in 1663, though Pope has fixed the date of his birth four years earlier.

Of the early part of Walsh's literary career we can speak with no great degree of certainty. He is described as having been a Member of Parliament and Knight of the Shire for his native county for many successive years. He was also on one occasion a representative of Richmond in Yorkshire; and for some time Gentleman of the Horse to Queen Anne, under the Duke of Somerset; but the precise dates of his admission to these honours have not been transmitted. His correspondence with Pope, whose poetical capabilities he appears to have duly appreciated in the earliest stage of their acquaintance, commenced in 1705. "One of my earliest





associates," says Pope (see Spence's Anecdotes), "was Walsh. I was with him at his seat in Worcestershire for a good part of the summer of 1705, and showed him my Essay on Criticism." He appears to have recommended the poet to study perspicuity and correctness, which he used to affirm were very much neglected by the writers of that day.

The letters which passed between Walsh and Pope were chiefly devoted to discussions on the pastoral comedy of the Italians, and such works of the celebrated poet as happened to be at that time in course of publication. Pope seems ever to have entertained a grateful sense of his friend's kindness and attention, and does not omit to mention him when alluding to those who aided and encouraged his juvenile studies :—

"Granville the polite,

And knowing Walsh would tell me I could write."

In his Essay on Criticism he is still more fervent in his praise :—

"To him the wit of Greece was known,  
And every author's merit but his own.  
Such late was Walsh, the muse's judge and friend,  
Who justly knew to blame or to commend ;  
To failings mild, but zealous for desert,  
The clearest head and the sincerest heart."

The exact period of Walsh's death has not been recorded : it is probable that it took place about the year 1710.





XVII.

## William Congreve, Esq.



**W**ILLIAM CONGREVE, the subject of the present memoir, was the only surviving son of William Congreve, Esq., the descendant of an ancient and highly respectable family of that name, many years resident in Staffordshire.

His first appearance before the public was as the author of a slight work of fancy, entitled, "Incognita, or Love and Duty reconciled." The reception of this maiden production was too unfavourable to encourage him in the prosecution of novel writing. He therefore turned his attention to the drama, and commenced his comedy of "The Old Bachelor," to amuse himself, as he affirmed, in a slow recovery from a fit of sickness. Dr. Johnson has expressed himself in terms of high commendation of this play; and Dryden declared "that he never saw such a *first play* in his life." It was acted at Drury Lane in 1693.

On the death of Queen Mary, in the latter part of the year 1694, Congreve wrote a sort of pastoral elegy, which was so much admired by the king that he presented him with a



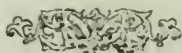
gratuity of £100. It was entitled "The Mourning Muse of Alexis," and partook largely of the vapidty and affectation for which compositions of this class are remarkable.

Congreve was ever remarkable for the suavity of his disposition, his mirth, and good humour. Lady Montague, speaking of him, observes, "I never knew any one that had so much wit as Congreve." His company was courted by the greatest geniuses and most accomplished scholars of the day. Among others, Sir Richard Temple was exceedingly partial to him, and frequently invited him to his table. After the poet's death this accomplished nobleman erected, in the beautiful gardens at Stowe, a monument to his memory. It is worthy of transcription for its neatness and applicability. It is as follows :

INGENIO,  
ACRI, FACETO, EXPOLITO,  
MORIBUSQUE  
URBANIS, CANDIDIS, FACILLIMIS,  
GULIELMI CONGREVE,  
HOC  
QUALECUNQUE DESIDERII SUI  
SOLAMEN SIMUL AC  
MONUMENTUM  
POSUIT COBHAM.  
1736.



Loss of sight from cataracts in his eyes, and severe paroxysms of the gout, rendered the latter days of Congreve, it is said, cheerless and gloomy. He did not, however, survive long after the visitation of these afflicting maladies. After visiting Bath for relief, he returned to London and expired there on the 29th January, 1728-9, in the sixtieth year of his age. His corpse lay in state at the Jerusalem Coffee-house, whence it was taken with great solemnity into Henry the Seventh's Chapel at Westminster, and afterwards interred in the Abbey. The pall was supported by persons of the highest distinction, namely by the Duke of Bridgewater, the Earl of Godolphin, Lord Cobham, Lord Wilmington, the Honourable George Berkely, and Brigadier-General Churchill; Colonel Congreve followed as chief mourner. Some time after a neat and elegant monument was erected to his memory by the Duchess of Marlborough, to whom he bequeathed a legacy of about £10,000.








XVIII.

Charles Dartiquenave, Esq.

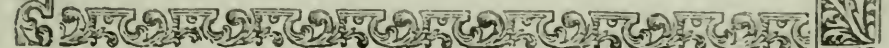


**C**HARLES DARTIQUENAVE, better known by the abbreviated name of Darteneuf, was the intimate friend and associate of Swift, Steele, and Addison. He was particularly celebrated as an epicure and a punster, for a disposition not only to eat but to say good things. "He was," say the annotators, "undoubtedly a writer in *The Tatler*, though his papers cannot at present be ascertained." We have two allusions to his epicurism in Pope's Epistles :—

"Each mortal has his pleasure, none deny  
Scarsdale his bottle, *Darty* his ham-pye.

• • • • •  
Hard task to suit the palate of such guests,  
When Oldfield loves what Darteneuf detests."

Of Dartiquenave's life and employments but little information has been transmitted. He was Paymaster of the Board of Works, and Surveyor of the royal gardens



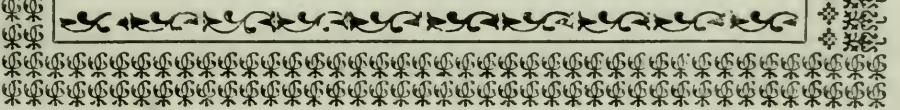
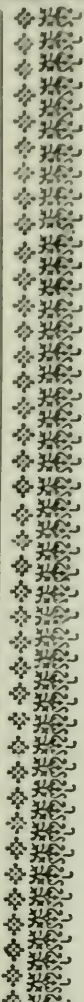
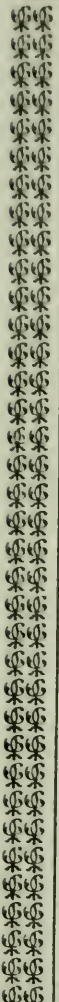
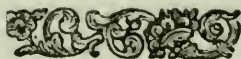






and waters in 1736. He is supposed to have been the *élève* of a refugee French family, whose name he took. Some, indeed, have referred his origin to Charles II., but this without any reasonable appearance of probability.

So generally was the epicurism of Dartiquenave the subject of remark, that Lord Lyttleton has given a dialogue in the shades between "Darteneuf and Apicius," on the subject of good eating, ancient and modern; in which ham pie is stated by the edacious subject of this notice to have been his favourite dainty. Nor was Dartiquenave less averse to good drinking than eating. He was very expensive in the choice of his wines. He wrote a paper on this subject in *The Tatler*. He might be said with truth to have reversed the maxim of an ancient philosopher altogether. Instead of eating and drinking that he might live, he appeared rather to live that he might eat and drink. He died in 1737.

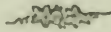






XIX.

## Thomas Hopkins, Esq.

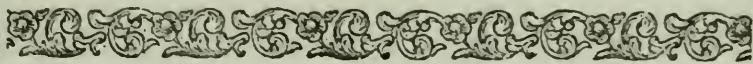


**T**HOMAS HOPKINS, Esq., was an eminent money scrivener, who rendered himself extremely useful to the nobility and gentry of his time by supplying them with the loan of money; for which, however, he was especially careful to have good security and pretty usurious interest.

So useful a man was this Hopkins found among the Whigs, that, in order to insure his good offices, they appointed him, whilst they held the reins of administration, to the office of Commissioner of the Salt Duties. His immense wealth and consequent interest introduced him to the first circle of rank in the kingdom, and gave him also an opportunity of bringing forward his son, with a tolerably certain expectation of his being established in some lucrative situation under the then prevailing party, who were using all their exertions to secure the Protestant succession to the throne of England in the House of Brunswick.

Thomas Hopkins, Esq., died January 17th, 1720, and was succeeded as Gauger-General of Ireland, a patent place, by Edward Webster, Esq., who had a grant to the reversion of that office.

Hopkins's son, as will be seen by the ensuing notice, was likewise inaugurated a member of the Kit-Cat Club.





## Edward Hopkins, Esq.

**E**DWARD HOPKINS, Esq., son, as we have already mentioned, was for several years Member of Parliament for the borough of Eye, in Norfolk. He was in high favour with the ruling members of the administration on the accession of George I.; and was, in 1716, appointed one of the Commissioners of the Revenue, in Ireland, in the room of Horatio Walpole, Esq. In order to qualify himself for this situation, he vacated his seat in Parliament, and does not appear ever after to have been returned again.

In 1721 he became secretary to Charles Fitzroy, second Duke of Grafton, on that nobleman's being constituted Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland. Before Hopkins left the green isle of Erin, he contrived to obtain the post of Master of the Revels in that kingdom, of which situation he received the emoluments until the day of his death.



## Arthur Maynwaring, Esq.



**T**HIS gentleman, equally distinguished as a wit and a politician, was the descendant of a very ancient family, which intermarried with the noble houses of Cholmondeley and Egerton, and was for many years resident in Cheshire. He was born in 1668, at Ightfield, on the borders of that country.

In the beginning of the reign of Queen Anne, the Treasurer Godolphin, with whom Maynwaring was in high favour, engaged Mr. Donne to quit the office of Auditor of the Imprests (his lordship paying him several thousand pounds for his compliance), in order that he might bestow, unasked, upon Maynwaring, the patent for that office, the emoluments of which amounted to about £2,000 per annum.

He was upon friendly terms with Sir Richard Steele, whom he assisted on several occasions in *The Tatler*. He died at St. Albans, November 13th, 1712, of a consumption, and was attended in his last illness by Doctors Garth, Radcliffe, and Blackmore. In his will he appointed Mrs. Oldfield, the celebrated actress, his executrix; with





whom he had lived for several years, and by whom he had a son, named Arthur Maynwarding. His estate was equally divided between this child, its mother, and his sister.

It is hardly worth while to enumerate his various political pamphlets ; we shall therefore conclude the present notice with a copy of verses said to have been written by Mr. Maynwarding at the request of the Kit-Cat Club.

## TOASTS.

## I.

Since Cob gives the feast,  
And *Hoppy's* deceased,  
And the club is at service so hard,  
We think it our duty  
To toast a new beauty,  
Called *Mademoiselle Oudenarde*.

## II.

*Hoppy.*] All Joy to his Grace  
For this ninth of his race,  
She's as fair as most of the former ;  
But where is that he  
Durst so impudent be  
To compare her to *Lady Monthermer*.

## III.

*Topsy.*] Was't his zeal or his drink  
Made *Hoppy's* grave ink  
Flow as if his blood was grown warmer ?  
Tho' it cost him some pain  
From his politic brain  
To squeeze out a rhyme to *Monthermer*.



## IV.

He at last was thought fit  
To show that in wit  
He's no more than in judgment a novice ;  
And there's hopes that in time  
Memorials in rhyme  
Will be sung by the clerks of his office !

## V.

Some may reckon such airs  
Too pert for grey hairs,  
That his years may his fancy endamage ;  
But despair not, old man,  
Let thy jingle chime on,  
For Cato learnt Greek at the same age !

## VI.

Since thro' envy, my friend,  
Thy chief talent none mend,  
On the unworthy no longer bestow it ;  
Or, at least for a while,  
Your rude cares to beguile,  
Let the statesman give way to the poet.

## VII.

Great examples allow  
You to clear that stern brow,  
And sure you may follow such warrants ;  
Plays, novels, and verses,  
As well as discourses,  
Were writ by the heroes of Florence.



## VIII.

*Hoppy.*] Such good friends as we  
Should better agree,  
But since you are pleased to begin, Sir,  
My foolish old muse  
Shall never refuse  
To engage with the wise man of Windsor.

## IX.

Tho' your worship's antique,  
And versed in old Greek,  
With the Moderns you never could pass ;  
Till the chancellor's wine  
Did your fancy refine  
And taught your records through a glass.

## X.

*Topsy.*] You mistake the thing quite,  
I was sooner polite ;  
And have had from your master a summons  
To see books and eat hard,  
When you were no bard,  
But an indigent lawyer in commons.

## XI.

Then souse me no more,  
Thou young wit at threescore ;  
When time shall thy poetry blast,  
Great Demosthenes  
In my English shall please,  
And my notes on Herodotus last !


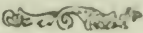





XXII.

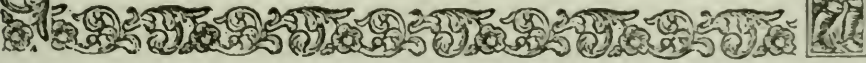
## Charles Montague,

DUKE OF MANCHESTER.



HARLES MONTAGUE, fourth Earl and first Duke of Manchester, succeeded to the title and estates of his father in 1682. He appeared with the other noble persons at the trial of the seven bishops on June 29th, 1688; and the figure they made in court had a good effect on the jury as well as the judges.

His Grace married Lady Dodington, the youngest daughter of Robert Greville, Lord Brooke, who died before him on February 6th, 1719-20. The Duke survived her only two years. He was interred January 27th, 1721-22, in the family vault of the Earls of Manchester, in the church of Kimbolton, in Huntingdonshire.



<sup>1</sup> 1. Charles ; 2. Lord John Philip ; 3. Lord George Germaine.

<sup>2</sup> 1. Lady Anne (so named by her godmother, Queen Anne) ;  
2. Lady Elizabeth ; 3. Lady Caroline.



# Lionel Cranfield Sackville,

DUKE OF DORSET.



**L**IONEL CRANFIELD SACKVILLE, the seventh Earl and first Duke of Dorset, was the only son of the celebrated poet and wit, Charles, Earl of Dorset, whom Lord Orford has described as being "the finest gentleman about the voluptuous court of Charles II."

His Grace departed this life on October 10th, 1765, in the seventy-ninth year of his age, and was buried with his ancestors at Witham.

The Duke was married January, 1789, to Elizabeth, daughter of Lieutenant-General Waller Philip Colyear, brother to David, Earl of Portmore. Her Grace was one of the Maids of Honour to Queen Anne, and first Lady of the Bedchamber and Lady of the Robes to Queen Caroline when Princess of Wales, and to the time of her Majesty's decease. She also represented the Queen of Prussia, as godmother to the Duke of Cumberland. She died on June 4th, 1768. His Grace had issue by her three sons<sup>1</sup> and three daughters.<sup>2</sup> Charles, his eldest son, succeeded him in his titles and estates.

<sup>1</sup> To whom Dr. Young dedicated his tragedy of "The Revenge," in a style of flattery which cannot be sufficiently reprobated, considering the notoriousness of the Duke's character at the time this tissue of bombast was published. Young lived to be ashamed of his dedication, for he suppressed it a few years afterwards.

Pope has treated the Duke of Wharton with memorable severity : the verses in which he describes him

"A tyrant to the wife his heart approves,  
A rebel to the very king he loves,"

are doubtless familiar to the reader.

His Grace appears at one period of his life to have patronised men of genius ; but, judging from the other traits in his character, it is not unreasonable to conclude that he did so in order to induce them to flatter him,

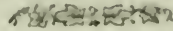
"Whose ruling passion was the lust of praise."



XXIV.

## Thomas Wharton,

MARQUIS OF WHARTON.



**T**HOMAS WHARTON, Marquis of Wharton, was the eldest son of Philip, the fourth Lord of that name, by his second wife, Jane, daughter of Arthur Goodwyn, Esq., of Upper Wichendon, Bucks. He was born about 1640.

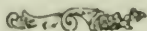
By his second lady, who was also much devoted to literary pursuits, and several of whose poems are inserted in Nichol's collection, he had one son, the celebrated Duke of Wharton,<sup>1</sup> and two daughters.

He was attended during his last illness by the two most celebrated physicians of the day, Sir Samuel Garth and Sir Richard Blackmore, who from the earliest stage of his disorder had very little hope of his recovery. A short time before he was seized with the indisposition which proved fatal to him, a person came into his house at Winchendon with a bundle of papers, having mistaken it for Lord Waldegrave's, a Roman Catholic. His Lordship on opening the bundle found a quantity of libels against the Government, and securing the messenger with his own hands, he ordered him to be carried before the Secretary of State, and properly interrogated on the affair ; by whom he was finally committed to prison.



# Theophilus Hastings,

EARL OF HUNTINGDON.



**T**HEOPHILUS; HASTINGS, ninth Earl of Huntingdon, and second son of the seventh Earl of that name (by his second wife Francis, daughter of Francis Leveson Fowler, Esq.), was born on November 12th, 1696, at Donington Park, in the county of Leicester.

On June 3rd, 1728, his Lordship married Lady Selina Shirley, daughter and co-heiress of Washington Shirley, Earl Ferrers. Her Ladyship was one of the most enthusiastic disciples of John Wesley; indeed, to such an extent did she appear to carry her devotion and reverence for this person, that she used to be entitled his "spiritual spouse." A servant stood but little chance of being hired, or a tradesman of being dealt with, who did not go to the same conventicle as her Ladyship; nor would she admit that there was any knowledge worth



acquiring beyond a due initiation into Baxter's "Art of Groaning," his "Assistance to Flesh-encumbered Christians," and his "Saints' Rest"; which she pronounced to be the *ne plus ultra* of human compositions.

The Earl died of an apoplexy on the 13th of October, 1746, and was buried in the church of Ashby de la Zouch, where there is a monument, with a long eulogium inscribed upon it.

The portrait of the Earl of Huntingdon was one of the many left unfinished by Sir Godfrey Kneller. Mr. Walsh's picture was left in nearly the same state, as was also that of Viscount Shannon.



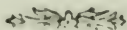




XXVI.

## Charles Sackville,

EARL OF DORSET.



**C**HARLES SACKVILLE, sixth Earl of Dorset and Middlesex, the most accomplished gentleman in the voluptuous court of Charles II., was born on January 24th, 1637.

After making the grand tour, Lord Dorset returned to England a little before the Restoration.

Upon the death of his uncle, James Cranfield, Earl of Middlesex, in 1674, that estate devolved upon him, and he succeeded to the title by creation, in 1675. His father died two years afterwards, when he came into possession of all his honours and titles. In 1684-5 he was constituted Lord-Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of the county of Sussex; at which time, having buried his first wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Hervey Bagot of Pipe Hall, in the county of Warwick, without any issue by





her, he married Lady Mary, daughter of James Compton, Earl of Northampton. She was one of the ladies of the bedchamber to Queen Mary, and left his Lordship once more a widower on August 6th, 1691. By this lady the Earl had one son, Lionel Cranfield Sackville, afterwards first Duke of Dorset (the subject of a preceding memoir); and one daughter, Lady Mary, born at his Lordship's seat at Cophall, in Essex, on April 24th, 1688, and married in 1702 to Henry Somerset, second Duke of Beaufort.

Horace Walpole observes of the Earl that "he had as much wit as his first master, Charles II., or his contemporaries, Buckingham and Rochester, without the King's want of feeling, the Duke's want of principle, or the Earl's want of thought." The latter said with astonishment, "that he did not know how it was, but Lord Dorset might do anything, and yet was never to blame"; and he elsewhere designates him as

"The best good man with the worst-natured muse."

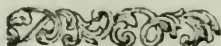
One or two of his *bon mots* are upon record: on Lord Dorset's promotion, King Charles, having seen Lord Craven pay his usual tribute to him, asked the former what the latter had been saying: the Earl replied gravely, "Sir, my Lord Craven did me the honour to whisper, but I did not



think it good manners to listen." He used to say of a very good-natured dull fellow, "'tis a thousand pities that man is not ill-natured, that one might kick him out of company."

We shall conclude this notice with the following character of the Earl of Dorset by Pope :—

" Dorset, the grace of courts, the Muse's pride,  
Patron of arts, and judge of nature, died :  
The scourge of pride, the sanctified, or great ;  
Of fops in learning, and of knaves in state.  
Yet soft his nature tho' severe his lay ;  
His anger moral and his wisdom gay.  
Blest satirist ! who touched the mean so true,  
As showed vice had its hate and pity too.  
Blest courtier ! who could king and country please,  
Yet sacred keep his friendship and his case.  
Blest peer ! his great forefather's every grace  
Reflecting and reflected in his race ;  
Where other Buckhursts, other Dorsets shine,  
And patriots still or poets deck the line."



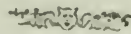




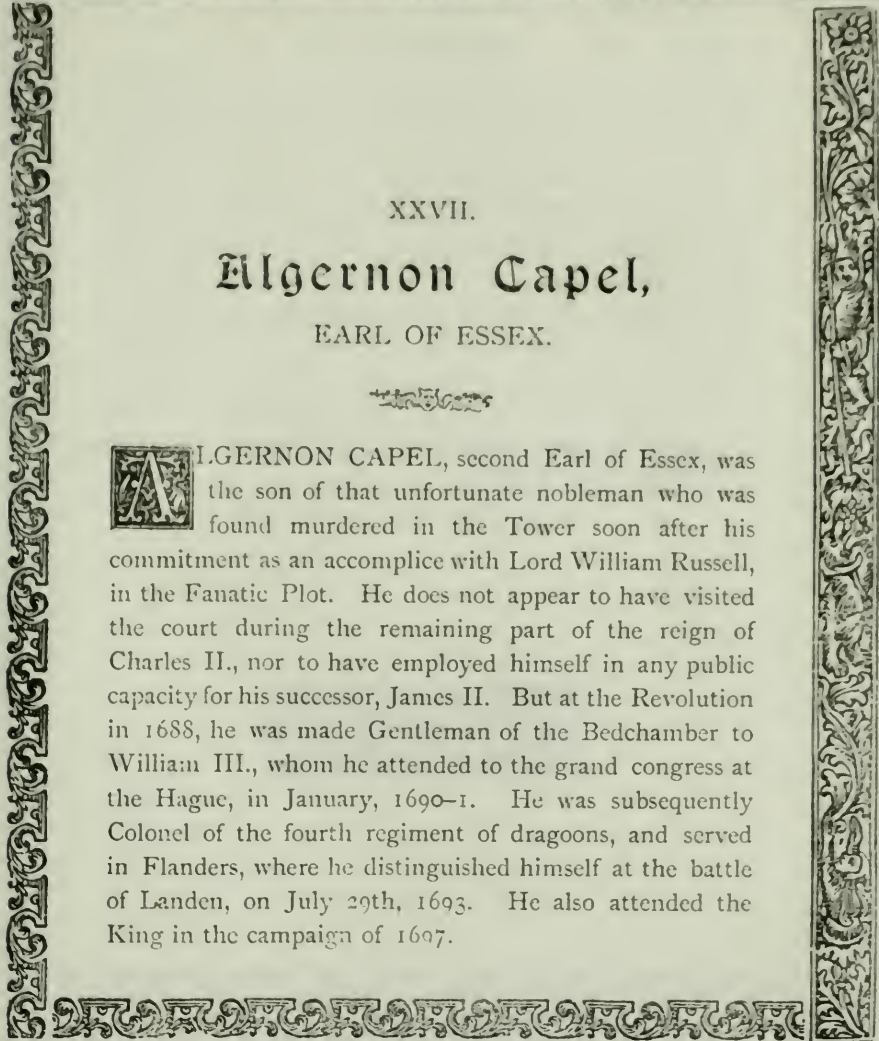
XXVII.

## Algernon Capel,

EARL OF ESSEX.



**A**LGERNON CAPEL, second Earl of Essex, was the son of that unfortunate nobleman who was found murdered in the Tower soon after his commitment as an accomplice with Lord William Russell, in the Fanatic Plot. He does not appear to have visited the court during the remaining part of the reign of Charles II., nor to have employed himself in any public capacity for his successor, James II. But at the Revolution in 1688, he was made Gentleman of the Bedchamber to William III., whom he attended to the grand congress at the Hague, in January, 1690-1. He was subsequently Colonel of the fourth regiment of dragoons, and served in Flanders, where he distinguished himself at the battle of Landen, on July 29th, 1693. He also attended the King in the campaign of 1697.

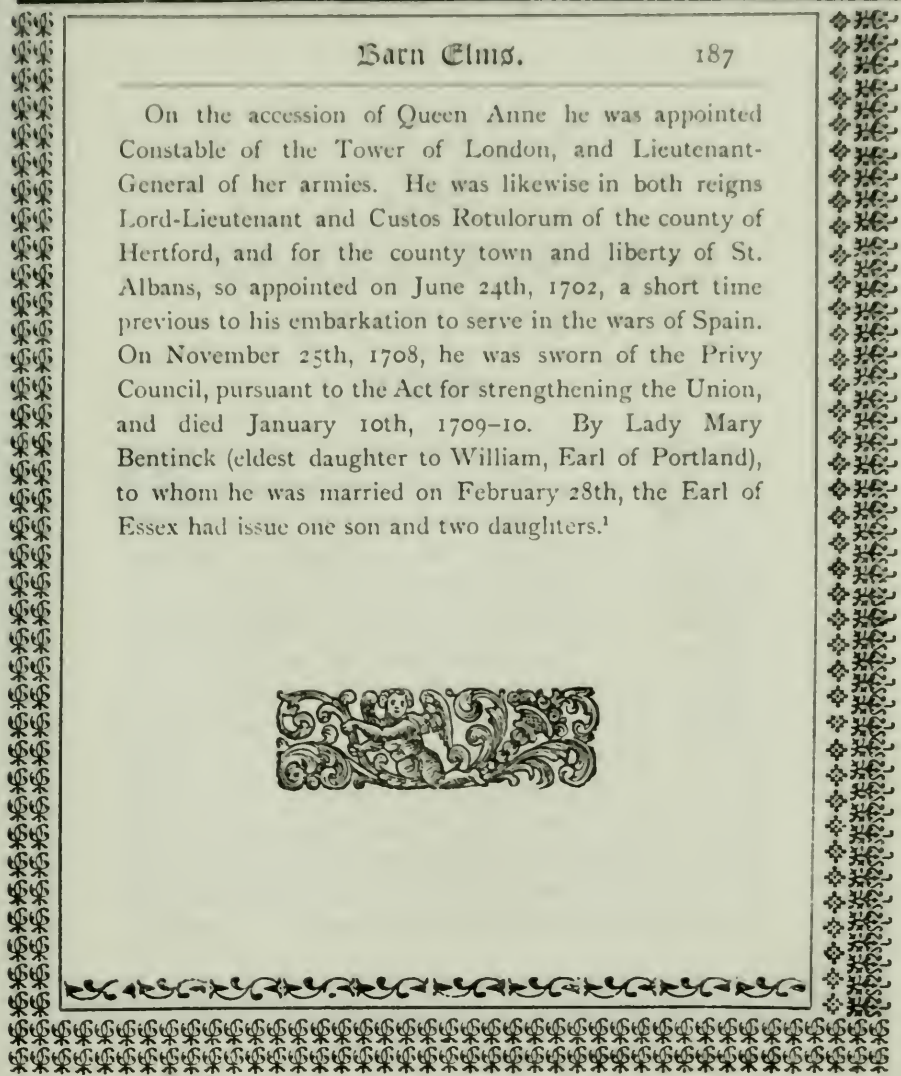


<sup>1</sup> William, who succeeded him in his titles and estates; Lady Elizabeth, and Lady Mary.






On the accession of Queen Anne he was appointed Constable of the Tower of London, and Lieutenant-General of her armies. He was likewise in both reigns Lord-Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of the county of Hertford, and for the county town and liberty of St. Albans, so appointed on June 24th, 1702, a short time previous to his embarkation to serve in the wars of Spain. On November 25th, 1708, he was sworn of the Privy Council, pursuant to the Act for strengthening the Union, and died January 10th, 1709-10. By Lady Mary Bentinck (eldest daughter to William, Earl of Portland), to whom he was married on February 28th, the Earl of Essex had issue one son and two daughters.<sup>1</sup>



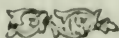




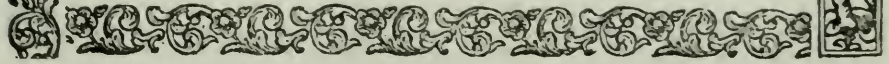
XXVIII.

## Charles Howard,

EARL OF CARLISLE.



**C**HARLES HOWARD, third Earl of Carlisle, was the eldest son of Edward, the second earl of that name. He was born about 1660. Whilst a commoner he represented the borough of Morpeth, and voted as such in the convention parliament in the reign of King William. On March 6th, 1688-9, in the lifetime of his father, he was constituted Lord-Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of the counties of Westmoreland and Cumberland, and was a second time returned member for Morpeth in the parliament summoned in 1690. He continued to represent that place until his father's decease; after which he took his seat in the House of Peers on November 11th, 1692; and, on December 30th, 1699, was constituted Custos Rotulorum of the county of Cambridge. On June 24th, 1700, he was appointed one of



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<sup>1</sup> 1. Henry, afterwards Earl of Carlisle; 2. The Honourable Charles Howard; 3. Lady Elizabeth; 4. Lady Anne, who died in infancy; 5. Lady Anne.

the Gentlemen of his Majesty's Bedchamber, and Deputy Earl Marshal during the minority of the Duke of Norfolk, being so constituted on February 12th, of the ensuing year, 13th William III. In that reign he was also Commissioner of the Treasury, Governor of the town and castle of Carlisle, Vice-Admiral of the sea-coasts adjacent, and sworn one of the Privy Council on June 19th, 1701, when he visited the King at Loo, and returned to England October 1st of the same year.

On the accession of Queen Anne, his Lordship was constituted Earl Marshal; and, on June 24th following, was appointed Lord-Lieutenant of the counties of Cumberland and Westmoreland. He was also one of her Privy Council; and in 1706, one of the commissioners to treat with the Scotch about a union between the two kingdoms.

His Lordship died at Bath on May 1st, 1738, and was buried at Castle Howard. By his lady, Anne Capel, daughter of Arthur, first Earl of Essex, he left two sons and three daughters.<sup>1</sup> Anne, Countess of Carlisle, survived her lord many years, and died a widow in 1752, at the advanced age of seventy-eight years.

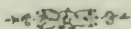
<sup>1</sup> Lady Dorothy ; 2. Lady Juliana ; 3. Lady Charlotte.

<sup>2</sup> In the eighteenth stall of St. George's Chapel, Windsor, is a plate of his arms, bearing the following inscription :—

“Du très noble et puissant Seigneur, Richard Boyle, Comte de Burlington, et aussi de Cork, Visconte de Dungarvan et Kinalmeaky en Ireland, Baron Clifford de Londesburgh, et aussi Baron Boyle de Youghall et Baron de Bandon en Ireland, grand trésorier d'Ireland, seigneur lieutenant et garde des rolles de l'occidental Riding de York, seigneur lieutenant de la cité, province ou aynsté de York, vice admiral de Yorkshire, gardes des rolles du septentrional Riding de Yorkshire, gouveneur en chef de la province de Cork, connestable et sénéchal du chateau, seigneurie et de l'honneur de Knaresburgh, conseiller du Ruj en son conseil privé ; chevalier du très noble ordre de la jarettiére installé au chateau de Windesor le jour de 18 Juin 1730.’

# Richard Boyle,

## EARL OF BURLINGTON.



**R**ICHARD BOYLE, third Earl of Burlington, celebrated for his munificent patronage of the authors and artists of his day, was born on April 26th, 1695.

In 1720-1 he married the Lady Dorothy Savile, eldest of the two daughters and co-heirs of William Savile, Marquis of Halifax, and by her (who died in 1758) he had three daughters.<sup>1</sup>

In 1730, his Lordship was installed one of the Knights Companions of the most noble order of the Garter,<sup>2</sup> and in the following year he was constituted Captain of the Band of Gentlemen Pensioners.

His Lordship was famous for his skill in architecture, and planned as well as otherwise assisted in the erection of several public edifices.

The Earl of Burlington died at Chiswick on December 3rd, 1753, and his remains were carried to Lunesburgh, where they were interred. In him the English honours became extinct; but his Lordship's titles in Ireland devolved upon his heir male, the Right Honourable John, Earl of Cork and Orrery, &c.

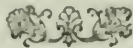




XXX.

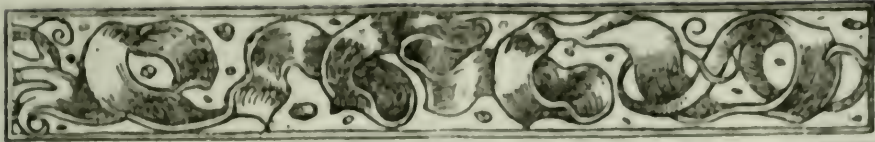
## James Berkeley,

EARL OF BERKELEY.



**J**AMES, third Earl of Berkeley, was educated by his father for the sea-service, and performed many gallant exploits during the reign of Queen Anne. He sat in King William's last parliament for the city of Gloucester, and was called up to the House of Peers in 1704, by the title of Lord Dursley. In Sir George Rooke's engagement with the French fleet off Malaga, a few months afterwards, he commanded the *Byrne*, a ship of eighty guns and five hundred men. He also served with Sir Cloudesley Shovel at the siege of Toulon, when the *Gazette* gives the following account of his Lordship:—"From the camp de la Valette, near Toulon, August 9th, 1707. The Lord Dursley riding at anchor before one of the Isles of Hieres, in which are three forts, surprised the strongest, and summoned the

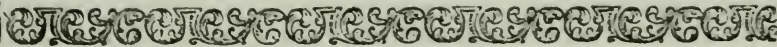
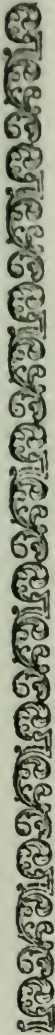




two others, which surrendered at discretion." But after that expedition, he narrowly escaped shipwreck on his return home : his ship, the *George*, having struck on the same ridge of rocks on which Sir Cloudesley Shovel was lost, on October 22nd, 1707 ; but a wave providentially floated his Lordship's vessel, and she cleared. A few months afterwards, in consideration of his eminent services, he was made a Rear-Admiral, and on January 26th, 1707-8, appointed Vice-Admiral of the Blue. In the following year, being Vice-Admiral of the White, and cruising off Sally, he had an engagement with Monsieur du Guay Trouin, commander of a French squadron, in which he captured a French man-of-war and three hundred and twelve men, recovering at the same time her Majesty's ship the *Bristol* of fifty-three guns ; but by an unfortunate shot from the enemy, she sank within two or three hours after her recapture : his Lordship, however, preserved all the crew, with the exception of twenty, who went down with her.

In 1710, Lord Dursley succeeded his father as third Earl of Berkeley, and was constituted Lord-Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of the County of Gloucester and City of Bristol ; also Warden of the Forest of Dean, and High Steward of the City of Gloucester.

His Lordship died at the castle of Aubigny, a seat of



<sup>1</sup> Augustus, who succeeded his father as fourth Earl of Berkeley.

<sup>2</sup> Lady Elizabeth.

the Duke of Richmond's near Rochelle in France (where he had retired for the recovery of his health), in August, 1736, and was buried at Berkeley.

His Lordship married the Lady Louisa Lenox (eldest daughter of Charles, first Duke of Richmond), who was appointed in 1714 one of the Ladies of the Bedchamber to Queen Caroline, then Princess of Wales, and died of the small-pox June 15th, 1716, in the twenty-third year of her age, leaving one son,<sup>1</sup> born the year before her decease; and a daughter,<sup>2</sup> who was married, in 1727, to Anthony Henley, of the Grange, in the county of Southampton.

He was many years a member of the Kit-Cat Club, and was highly esteemed by the illustrious gentlemen of whom that association was composed.



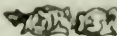




XXXI.

## Richard Lumley,

EARL OF SCARBOROUGH.



**R**ICHARD LUMLEY, second Earl of Scarborough, succeeded his father in the title and estates of the family in 1721.

On the accession of George I., his Lordship was appointed one of the Gentlemen of the Bedchamber to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales ; and shortly after constituted Master of the Horse, and Captain and Colonel of the first regiment of Grenadier Guards. On May 2nd, 1721, he stood proxy for Ernest Augustus, Duke of York, at the baptism of the Duke of Cumberland ; and on the Earl of Cadogan's succeeding the Duke of Marlborough as Colonel of the first regiment of Foot Guards, his Lordship was constituted Colonel of the second regiment of Foot Guards in 1722. Two years afterwards he was elected a knight of the Garter, and was installed at Windsor immediately with the usual ceremonies.





The circumstances of Lord Scarborough's death are thus detailed in a letter from Lady Hertford to the Countess of Pembroke, dated February 4th, 1740 :—"The news will before this time have informed you of my Lord Scarborough's death ; but, perhaps, the tragical manner of it may yet be unknown to you. On the 30th of January he sent for my Lord Delaware, to whom he talked more than two hours about a bill to be brought into the House of Lords, to enable my Lord Halifax to pay his sister's fortune. After which, he sent to know whether my Lord Essex dined at home, and upon hearing that he did not, he ordered a dinner at his own house, and appointed to meet my Lord and Lady Harvey, and Lady Anne Markland, at the Duchess of Manchester's at seven o'clock to play at cards, at which time he ordered his chariot : but when his valet went up to let him know that it was ready, he found him dead on the floor, with a pistol lying by him, which he had discharged in at his mouth. The balls were lodged in his hair, and had not penetrated his skull. Everything was agreed on for his marriage, which was to have taken place very soon. It is said that the affliction of the Duchess of Manchester and Lady Anne Markland are inexpressible." (*Correspondence*, vol. i. p. 214.)

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<sup>1</sup> Hume.

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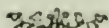
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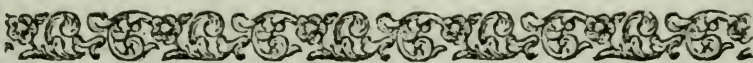
XXXII.

## Francis Godolphin,

EARL OF GODOLPHIN.



RANCIS, second Earl of Godolphin, was the only son of the celebrated Sydney Godolphin, who had "rendered himself necessary to four successive sovereigns, and managed the finances (as Lord High Treasurer) with equal skill and integrity."<sup>1</sup> He was born on September 3rd, 1678, and received the early part of his education at Eton School, but completed his studies at King's College, Cambridge. As soon as his Lordship came of age, he was chosen member of Parliament for the borough of Helston, as well as appointed one of the Knights of the Shire for the county of Oxford, in the seventh year of the reign of Queen Anne. In 1702 he was collated to the office of Teller of the Exchequer, and three years afterwards constituted Lord Warden of the Stanneries in Cornwall.



<sup>1</sup> 1. William, Marquis of Blandford ; 2. Lord Henry ; 3. The Lady Henrietta ; 4. Lady Mary.

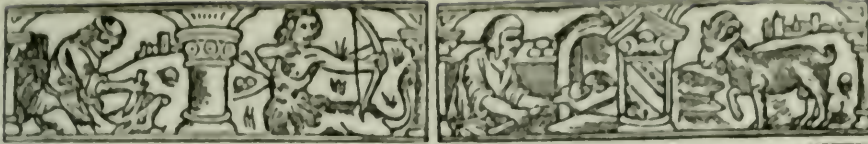
<sup>2</sup> Collins, in his Peerage, and Sir Egerton Brydges, have given his Lordship but one son, the Marquis of Blandford. This is one of the innumerable errors with which those volumes abound.

His Lordship married the Lady Henrietta Churchill, eldest daughter and coheirress of John Churchill, Duke of Marlborough, who succeeded her father (according to an especial provision to that effect by parliament, in case of the death of his Grace's heirs male) as Duchess of Marlborough. This lady was chosen of the bedchamber to her Majesty, Queen Anne, and died in 1733, having presented her lord with two sons and two daughters.<sup>1</sup>

The Earl of Godolphin departed this life on January 17th, 1766, having survived both his sons,<sup>2</sup> one of whom died in infancy, and the other, the Marquis of Blandford, in 1731. The title of Godolphin became extinct on the death of the earl, there being no heirs male.



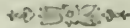




XXXIII.

## Charles Montague,

EARL OF HALIFAX.



**C**HARLES MONTAGUE, Earl of Halifax, was the son of George, a younger son of Henry, the first Earl of Manchester. He was born on April 16th, 1661, at Horton, in Northamptonshire, and receiving the rudiments of his education in the country, was removed to Westminster, where, in 1677, he was chosen King's Scholar, and particularly recommended himself to Dr. Busby by the facility with which he composed extempore epigrams. At this period his intimacy with Stepney commenced, and also his acquaintance with the great Newton.

The Earl of Halifax was one of the first members of the Kit-Cat Club, in 1703, the year of its establishment.

Among the verses of the Earl of Halifax given in Tonson's Miscellany, edited by Dryden, are some lines written for the toasting glasses of the Kit-Cat Club. We give them rather as curious pieces of information respecting the toasts of the time, than as having claim upon the attention as poetical productions :—





---

DUCHESS OF BEAUFORT.

Offspring of a tuneful sire,  
Blest with more than mortal fire :  
Likeness of a mother's face,  
Blest with more than mortal grace :  
You with double charms surprise,  
With his wit and with her eyes.

---

LADY MARY CHURCHILL.

Fairest, latest of the beauteous race,  
Blest with your parent's wit, and her first blooming face ;  
Born with our liberties in William's reign,  
Your eyes alone that liberty restrain.

---

DUCHESS OF RICHMOND.

Of two fair Richmonds different ages boast,  
Theirs was the first, and ours the brightest toast.  
Th' adorer's offering proves who's most divine,  
They sacrificed in water, we in wine.

---

LADY SUNDERLAND.


All nature's charms in Sunderland appear,  
Bright as her eyes, and as her reason clear ;  
Yet still their force, to men not safely known,  
Seems undiscovered to herself alone.

---

MADemoiselle SPANHEIME.

Admired in Germany, adored in France,  
Your charms to brighter glory here advance ;  
The stubborn Britons own your beauty's claim,  
And with their native toasts enroll your name.








XXXIV.


## James Stanhope,

EARL STANHOPE.



AMES STANHOPE, Earl Stanhope, eldest son of the Honourable Alexander Stanhope, the founder of this family (who was employed for sixteen years as envoy to the States General), was introduced to the public by his father at an early age.

At eighteen years of age he left the University in order to accompany his father to Spain, and, after some stay there, travelling into Italy, served as a volunteer under the Duke of Savoy, afterwards King of Sicily and Sardinia. In 1694 he was made a captain by King William, with the additional rank of lieutenant-colonel in his regiment of foot-guards. At the siege of Namur, in 1695, though not on duty, he went a volunteer on the attack of the counterscarp, and giving extraordinary proofs of his courage and conduct, was wounded and utterly disabled.



<sup>1</sup> 1. Philip, afterwards second Earl of Stanhope; 2. George;  
3. James.

<sup>2</sup> 1. Lady Gertrude; 2. Lady Jane.

In 1700 he was elected a Member of Parliament for Newport, in the Isle of Wight; and constantly serving in the House of Commons (till he was created a peer), distinguished himself in the debates which took place on various occasions.

In the expedition to Cadiz, under the Duke of Ormond, Lord Stanhope was also a volunteer, and showed great bravery at the Fort of Rendendallo.

In 1708 he was made Commander-in-Chief of the British forces in Spain. His first exploit after arriving at these honours, was the reduction of the celebrated port of Mahon, in the island of Minorca.

On the accession of George I. he was sworn one of the Principal Secretaries of State, and was constituted first Lord of the Treasury and Chancellor of the Exchequer.

In 1717 Stanhope was promoted to the dignity of a Viscount of Great Britain, by the style and title of Lord Viscount Stanhope, of Elvaston, in the county of Derby.

His lordship married, on February 24th, 1712-13, Lucy, youngest daughter of Thomas Pitt, of Boconnoc, Cornwall, Esq., some time Governor of Fort St. George, in the East Indies, by whom he had issue three sons<sup>1</sup> and two daughters.<sup>2</sup>

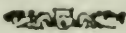




XXXV.

## Spencer Compton,

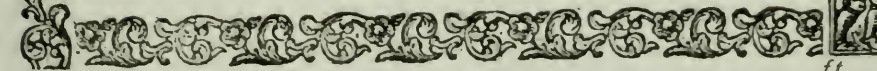
EARL OF WILMINGTON.



**S**PENCER COMPTON, Earl of Wilmington, was the third son of James Compton, third Earl of Northampton. He set out upon his travels in 1698, and whilst abroad was elected Member of Parliament for the borough of Eye, in Suffolk, in the seventh year of King William ; as also in all the subsequent parliaments of that reign, and the three first after the accession of Queen Anne.

On the accession of George I. Sir Spencer Compton was unanimously chosen Speaker of the House of Commons ; with which arduous and honourable office he united, in 1721, the post of Paymaster of the Forces, and Treasurer of Chelsea Hospital. He was created Knight of the Bath, on the revival of that order in 1725.

On the accession of George II. he was continued as





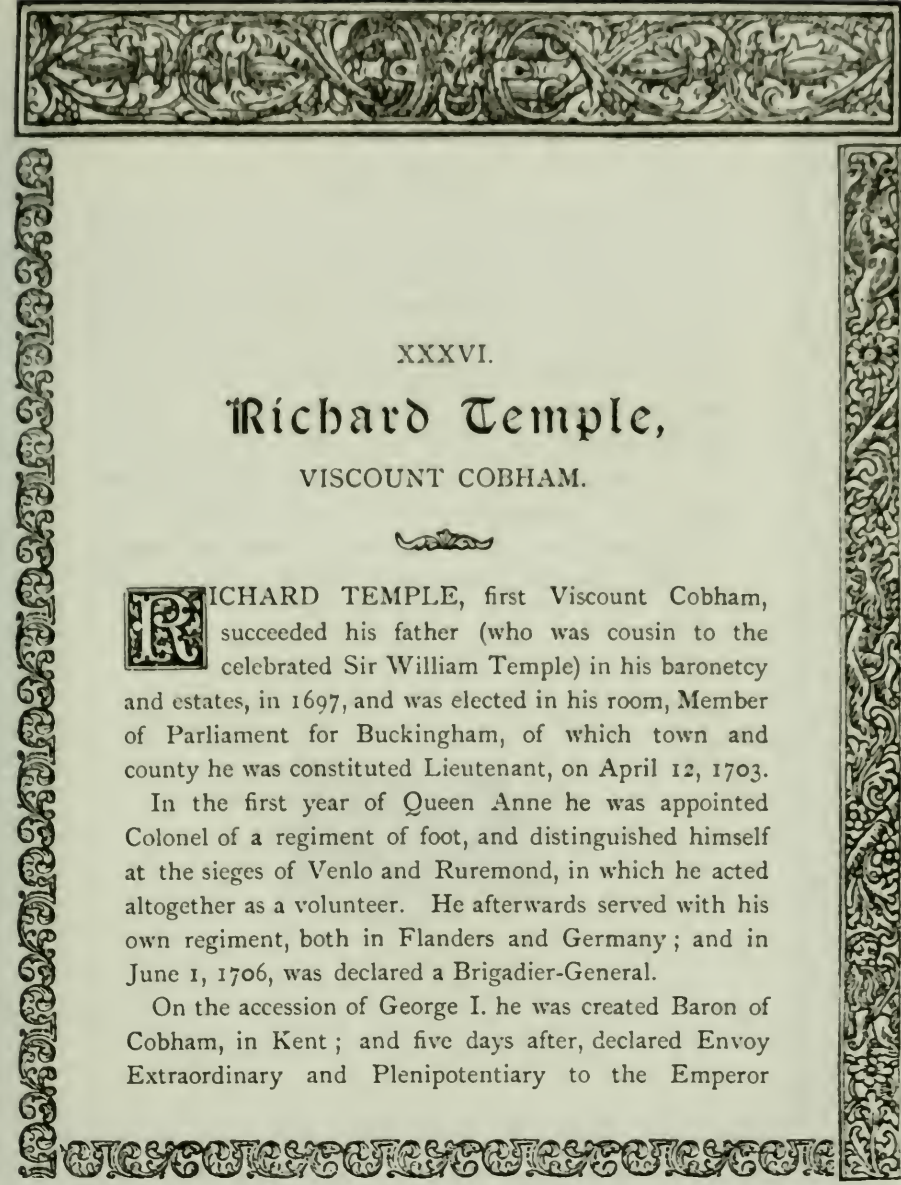


Paymaster-General of all his Majesty's forces, and Treasurer of the Chelsea Hospital. On June 2nd, 1727, he was promoted to the peerage by the title of Baron Wilmington; and three years afterwards was constituted Lord Privy Seal, and further advanced in the peerage by the titles of Viscount Pevensey and Earl of Wilmington. On the 22nd of August his Lordship was installed Knight of the Garter; and upon the resignation of Sir Robert Walpole, Earl of Orford, he was appointed first Lord of the Treasury, and Chancellor of the Exchequer, which trusts he is said to have discharged with perfect integrity and honour.

His Lordship died, after a short illness, at his house in St. James's Square, London, on July 2nd, 1743. Having never been married, his titles became, of course, extinct; and, as he left no will, his estates and personal property devolved on his nephew, James, fifth Earl of Northampton.







XXXVI.

Richard Temple,

VISCOUNT COBHAM.



**R**ICHARD TEMPLE, first Viscount Cobham, succeeded his father (who was cousin to the celebrated Sir William Temple) in his baronetcy and estates, in 1697, and was elected in his room, Member of Parliament for Buckingham, of which town and county he was constituted Lieutenant, on April 12, 1703.

In the first year of Queen Anne he was appointed Colonel of a regiment of foot, and distinguished himself at the sieges of Venlo and Ruremond, in which he acted altogether as a volunteer. He afterwards served with his own regiment, both in Flanders and Germany; and in June 1, 1706, was declared a Brigadier-General.

On the accession of George I. he was created Baron of Cobham, in Kent; and five days after, declared Envoy Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Emperor




Charles II. In 1715, his Lordship was made Colonel of the first regiment of Dragoons, and the following year appointed Constable of Windsor Castle. On May 23rd, 1718, he became Viscount Cobham, and Baron Cobham, with remainder to his heirs ; and in default thereof, the dignities of *Viscount Cobham and Baron Cobham to the heirs male of her body ; and failing which, with the like remainder to his sister, Dame Christian Lyttleton.*

His Lordship died at Stow, September 13th, 1749, without any issue by his lady, Anne, only daughter of Edmund Halsey, of the Borough of Southwark, Esq.

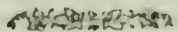







XXXVII.

## Charles, Lord Mohun.



HARLES, LORD MOHUN, was the son of the fourth lord of that name, by Philippa, daughter of Arthur, Earl of Anglesea.

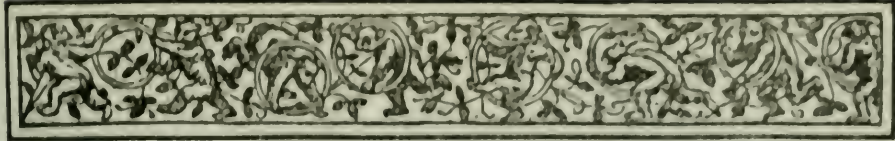
He came to the title during his minority, and, in consequence of the second marriage of his mother, we are told that his education was much neglected, and that he was, at a very early age, left to follow his own inclinations without restraint. He profited by this licence to such an extent, that before he was twenty years old he had plunged into every species of vice and debauchery; and contracted intimacies with the vilest profligates of the day, with whom he constantly identified himself, in all their drunken brawls and midnight atrocities.

He was tried on two or three occasions for murder; but had the good fortune to escape the punishment which was probably his due.

Charles, Earl of Macclesfield, whose niece he had married, took him with him to Hanover, when he visited that court for the purpose of announcing the settlement of the crown upon the House of Brunswick. Lord Maccles-



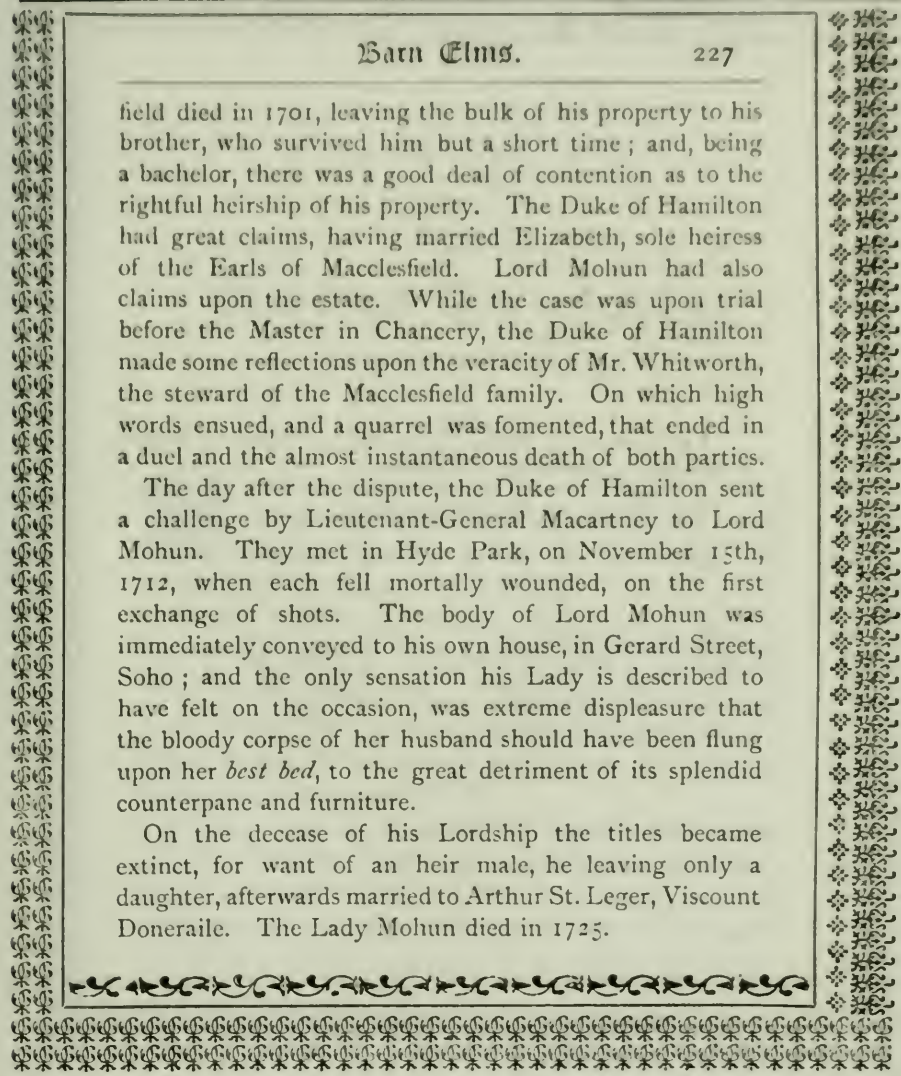




field died in 1701, leaving the bulk of his property to his brother, who survived him but a short time ; and, being a bachelor, there was a good deal of contention as to the rightful heirship of his property. The Duke of Hamilton had great claims, having married Elizabeth, sole heiress of the Earls of Macclesfield. Lord Mohun had also claims upon the estate. While the case was upon trial before the Master in Chancery, the Duke of Hamilton made some reflections upon the veracity of Mr. Whitworth, the steward of the Macclesfield family. On which high words ensued, and a quarrel was fomented, that ended in a duel and the almost instantaneous death of both parties.

The day after the dispute, the Duke of Hamilton sent a challenge by Lieutenant-General Macartney to Lord Mohun. They met in Hyde Park, on November 15th, 1712, when each fell mortally wounded, on the first exchange of shots. The body of Lord Mohun was immediately conveyed to his own house, in Gerard Street, Soho ; and the only sensation his Lady is described to have felt on the occasion, was extreme displeasure that the bloody corpse of her husband should have been flung upon her *best bed*, to the great detriment of its splendid counterpane and furniture.

On the decease of his Lordship the titles became extinct, for want of an heir male, he leaving only a daughter, afterwards married to Arthur St. Leger, Viscount Doneraile. The Lady Mohun died in 1725.



<sup>1</sup> 1. Charles ; 2. James ; 3. Stephen ; 4. John ; 5. Richard ;  
6. Edward ; 7. Frederick ; 8. William.

<sup>2</sup> 1. Charlotte ; 2. Elizabeth ; 3. Mary.



XXXVIII.

## Charles Cornwallis,

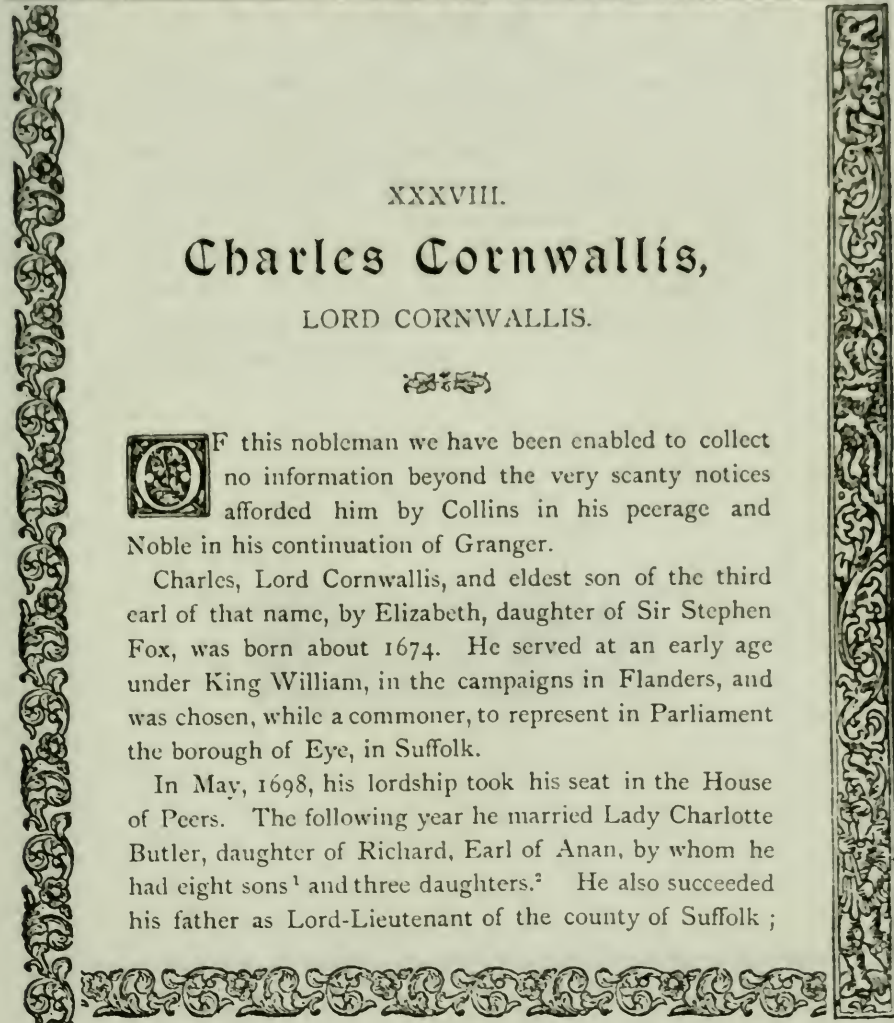
LORD CORNWALLIS.



**O**F this nobleman we have been enabled to collect no information beyond the very scanty notices afforded him by Collins in his *peerage* and Noble in his continuation of *Granger*.

Charles, Lord Cornwallis, and eldest son of the third earl of that name, by Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Stephen Fox, was born about 1674. He served at an early age under King William, in the campaigns in Flanders, and was chosen, while a commoner, to represent in Parliament the borough of Eye, in Suffolk.

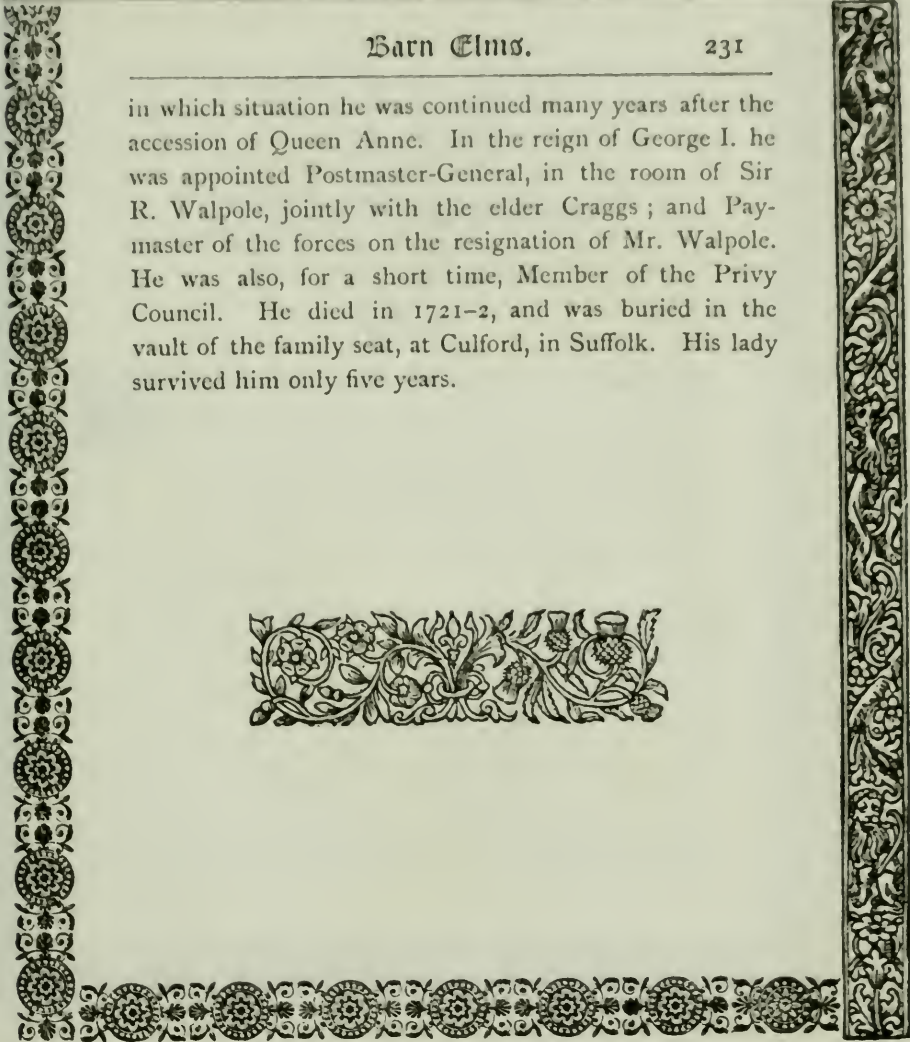
In May, 1698, his lordship took his seat in the House of Peers. The following year he married Lady Charlotte Butler, daughter of Richard, Earl of Anan, by whom he had eight sons<sup>1</sup> and three daughters.<sup>2</sup> He also succeeded his father as Lord-Lieutenant of the county of Suffolk ;








in which situation he was continued many years after the accession of Queen Anne. In the reign of George I. he was appointed Postmaster-General, in the room of Sir R. Walpole, jointly with the elder Craggs ; and Paymaster of the forces on the resignation of Mr. Walpole. He was also, for a short time, Member of the Privy Council. He died in 1721-2, and was buried in the vault of the family seat, at Culford, in Suffolk. His lady survived him only five years.



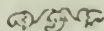





XXXIX.

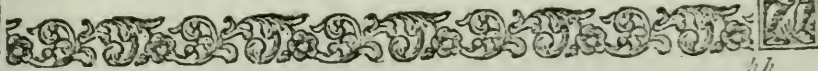
## John Vaughan,

EARL OF CARBERRY.



OHN VAUGHAN, third Earl of Carberry, was the last descendant of an ancient and honourable family, ennobled in the reign of Charles I., for some considerable services rendered by it to the State in Ireland, about 1628. His lordship's brother, Francis, Lord Vaughan, was the first husband of the celebrated Lady Rachel Russell.

The Earl of Carberry married, during the lifetime of his father, Mary, daughter of Humphrey Brown, of Green Castle, in the county of Carmarthen, Esq., by whom he had no issue. This lady dying, a few years after his union with her, his lordship took as his second wife, Anne, daughter to the Marquis of Halifax, who brought him one daughter (married at an early age, to Charles Powlett, Marquis of Winchester, but subsequently Duke of Bolton).



<sup>1</sup> It is entitled Gough House, and is one of the noblest establishments of this description in England.



The Earl of Carberry usually resided at Chelsea, at a house which, after his death, came into possession of Sir Richard Gough, and has been within these last few years converted into a ladies' school.<sup>1</sup>

His lordship died there in 1712, aged 72 years ; and, as he left behind him no issue male, the title of Carberry (with the English barony of Evelyn, which had been also granted to his ancestors) expired with him. King George I. conferred the title of Carberry on the Evanses, a Welsh family, not very distantly related to the Vaughans.







XL.

## John Somers,

BARON OF EVESHAM.



**J**OHNSOMERS, Baron of Evesham, the first and only nobleman of that name mentioned in the British Peerage, was born at Worcester, on March 4th, 1650.

In 1688, he made himself conspicuous as counsel for the seven bishops who were tried for opposing the dispensing power of James II. He had afterwards a principal share in bringing about the Revolution; and for several years was chosen to represent his native city of Worcester, in Parliament.

On May 9th, 1689, immediately on the accession of King William, Somers was constituted Solicitor-General; elected Recorder of Gloucester, in 1690; made Attorney-General on May 2nd, 1692; and Lord Keeper, in 1693.

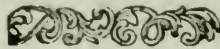
It was about this time that the King, who had previously knighted him, created him Baron of Evesham and Lord



Chancellor of England ; and, in order that he might be the better enabled to support these dignities with credit to himself and the Government, his Majesty granted him, besides the manors of Ryegate and Howlegh, in Surrey, £2,100 per annum, out of the fee-farm rents of the Crown.

On the death of King William, Lord Somers, disliking the new court, retired from public life, and devoted much of his time at his seat near Cheshunt, in Hertfordshire, to the study of history, antiquities, and polite literature. He was five years President of the Royal Society. In 1706, his lordship projected the plan for the union of England and Scotland, and was constituted one of the managers by Queen Anne. The same year he brought a Bill into the House for preventing delays and expenses in proceedings at law.

Lord Somers died of an apoplexy, on April 26th, 1716. He was never married, and consequently his titles and honours became extinct with him.



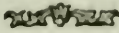
<sup>1</sup> 1. Algernon, Earl of Hertford; 2. Lord Percy Seymour; 3. Lord Charles; 1. Lady Elizabeth; 2. Lady Catherine; 3. Lady Anne; 4. Lady Frances.




XII.

## Charles Seymour,

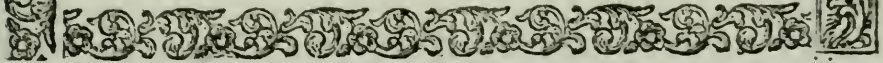
DUKE OF SOMERSET.



HARLES SEYMOUR, commonly called the *proud* Duke of Somerset, on account of his magnificent and stately manner of living as well as his extreme haughtiness, succeeded his brother Francis, the fifth duke of that name (who was murdered at Leric, in 1678).

He was born August 12th, 1662; and on May 30th, 1682, took to wife Lady Elizabeth, sole daughter and heiress of Josceline Percy, the last Earl of Northumberland. It is a remarkable fact, that this illustrious lady was thrice married, and twice a widow, before she arrived at the age of sixteen years; having been betrothed, when literally an infant, to Henry Cavendish, Earl of Ogle, and upon his death, which happened a year afterwards, solemnly contracted to Thomas Thynne, Esq., who was so barbarously assassinated by the infamous Count Königsmark.

By his first wife, the Duke of Somerset had issue that survived to maturity, three sons and four daughters.<sup>1</sup> Algernon, Earl of Hertford, succeeded him in the dukedom. His second duchess, Lady Charlotte Finch, to whom



<sup>1</sup> 1. Lady Frances; 2. Lady Charlotte.



he was married on February 4th, 1725-6, was the daughter of Daniel, Earl of Winchelsea and Nottingham. She brought him two daughters,<sup>1</sup> and died January 21st, 1773.

Some years previous to his decease, his Grace retired from all public affairs to his seat at Petworth, in Sussex, where he departed this life December 2nd, 1748, and on the 26th of the same month was buried in Salisbury Cathedral.

The duke was of middle stature and elegantly formed, his complexion dark, and his countenance somewhat expressive.

Some remarkable anecdotes, illustrative of the intolerable pride of the Duke of Somerset, are related on various authorities. His second duchess once familiarly tapped him on the shoulder with her fan; when he turned round, and, with a look of marked displeasure, observed: "My first duchess was a Percy, and she never took such a liberty." His children were taught to obey his injunctions with the most profound respect. The two youngest of his daughters were accustomed to stand and watch him alternately whilst he slept in an afternoon. On one occasion, Lady Charlotte, feeling herself fatigued, sat down. The Duke waked unexpectedly, and, expressing his surprise at her disobedience, declared he would remember her want of decorum in his will. He left this daughter £20,000 less than her sister.

The portraits of the Kit-Cat Club were undertaken at the instigation of the Duke of Somerset. He was the first of the members who sat to Kneller for his portrait, and when it was finished he presented it to Jacob Tonson.





XLII.

## Charles Lenox,

DUKE OF RICHMOND.



**C**HARLES LENOX, Duke of Richmond, Lenox, and Aubigny, was a natural son of Charles II. by Louise Renée de Penencourt de Queroualle, a French lady, created by that monarch, Baroness of Petersfield, Countess of Foreham, and Duchess of Portsmouth; and by Louis XIV., Duchess of Aubigny in France. He was born July 29, 1672; his royal father was present at his baptism, and in addition to the surname of Lenox, gave him his own christian name, Charles; three years afterwards, he created him Baron of Settrington, in the county of York, Earl of March, and Duke of Richmond, by letters patent, bearing date at Westminster, August 9, 1675.

His Majesty, reflecting with what dignity and lustre the house of Lenox had shone in former days, and that by the death of Charles Stewart, Duke of Richmond and Lenox, the titles were immersed in the Crown, bestowed



the estate of Lenox on his son, the aforesaid Charles, Duke of Richmond, and besides the honours already detailed, made him Duke of Lenox, Earl of Darnley, and Baron Methuen of Torbolton.

His Grace married in January, 1692-3, Anne, widow of Henry, son of John, Lord Belasyse of Norlaby. She was second daughter of Francis, Lord Brudenell, son and heir-apparent of Robert, Earl of Cardigan ; and by her second husband, left issue one son, Charles, second Duke of Richmond, Lenox, and Aubigny ; as also two daughters, Lady Louise, born December 24th, 1694, married to James, third Earl of Berkeley, and Lady Anne, born June 24th, 1703, wedded to William Anne, second Earl of Albemarle. Her Grace died December 9th, 1722. In Macky's Characters of the Court of Great Britain, a book by the way worthy of but little reliance, either on the score of its veracity or accuracy, it is said of the Duke of Richmond, " he is a gentleman, good-natured to a fault, very well bred, and hath many valuable things in him ; he is an enemy to business, very credulous, well-shaped, dark complexion, and a good deal like his father, King Charles." Swift also mentions him in a sneering manner in his journal to Stella ; but the abuse of this universal calumniator of human nature is on the whole a compliment rather than otherwise.



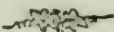




XLIII.

## Charles Fitzroy,

DUKE OF GRAFTON.



**C**HARLES FITZROY, the subject of the present memoir, was the only child of Henry Fitzroy, first Duke of Grafton (natural son of Charles II. by Barbara Villiers, Duchess of Cleveland), and the Lady Isabella, daughter and heiress to Henry Bennet, Earl of Arlington. His Grace was born on October 25, 1683; and after finishing his travels abroad, took his seat in the House of Peers, October 25, 1704; and in April, 1705, was constituted Lord Lieutenant of the county of Suffolk. He was sent to Portsmouth, September 25, 1708, to compliment Mary Anne of Austria, Queen of Portugal, in her Majesty's name, on her arrival in Great Britain, where she rested a few days on her way to her own dominions. On October 9, 1714, he was again, on the accession of George I. (at whose coronation he acted as High Steward,





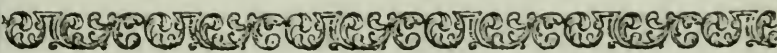
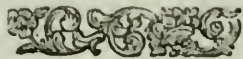
and carried St. Edmund's crown) constituted Lord Lieutenant of the county of Suffolk, and Custos Rotulorum of the same. On October 18, he became one of the gentlemen of his Majesty's bedchamber; and on August 27, 1715, his Grace, and Henry, Earl of Galway, were appointed Lords Justices of Ireland. On the 31st of the same month, he was sworn one of his Majesty's privy council. On June 17, 1720, his Majesty in council declared him Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. His Grace embarked at Holyhead, August 21, 1721, and landing at Dublin the next day about noon, received the usual compliments, proceeded to the castle, and took the oaths as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. On September 13, he went in his accustomed state to the House of Peers, and opened the session of Parliament with a speech from the throne. On June 11, 1720, he was also nominated one of the Lords Justices of Great Britain, and in March 21, 1721, he was elected a Knight of the most noble order of the Garter, and was installed on 25th April following. On June 3, 1723, he was a second time constituted one of the Lords Justices of Great Britain; and on April 3, 1724, appointed Lord Chamberlain of his Majesty's household. On May 12, 1724 (immediately after his return from Ireland, from whence he arrived at Park-Gate, on the ninth of that month), he was sworn Recorder of the city





of Coventry, and presented with the freedom thereof. Also on June, 1725, he was a third time one of the Lords Justices ; and on May 31, 1727, a fourth time, when the King died on his journey. On George II.'s accession to the throne, he was again appointed, December 14, 1727, Lord Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of the county of Suffolk, and Vice-Admiral of the same. He was also constituted Lord Chamberlain of his Majesty's household, and sworn of his privy council ; and in August, 1734, was elected one of the Governors of the Charter-House.

His Grace, in 1713, married the Lady Henrietta, daughter to Charles Somerset, Marquis of Worcester (eldest son of Henry, Duke of Beaufort), and by her (who died August 9, 1726) had issue, five sons and four daughters.





XLIV.

## William Cavendish,

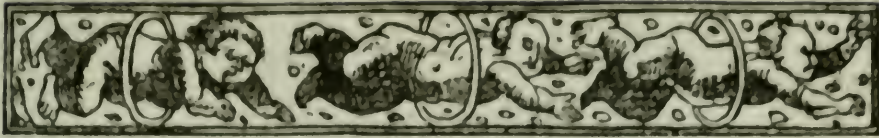
DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE.

~~WILLIAM~~



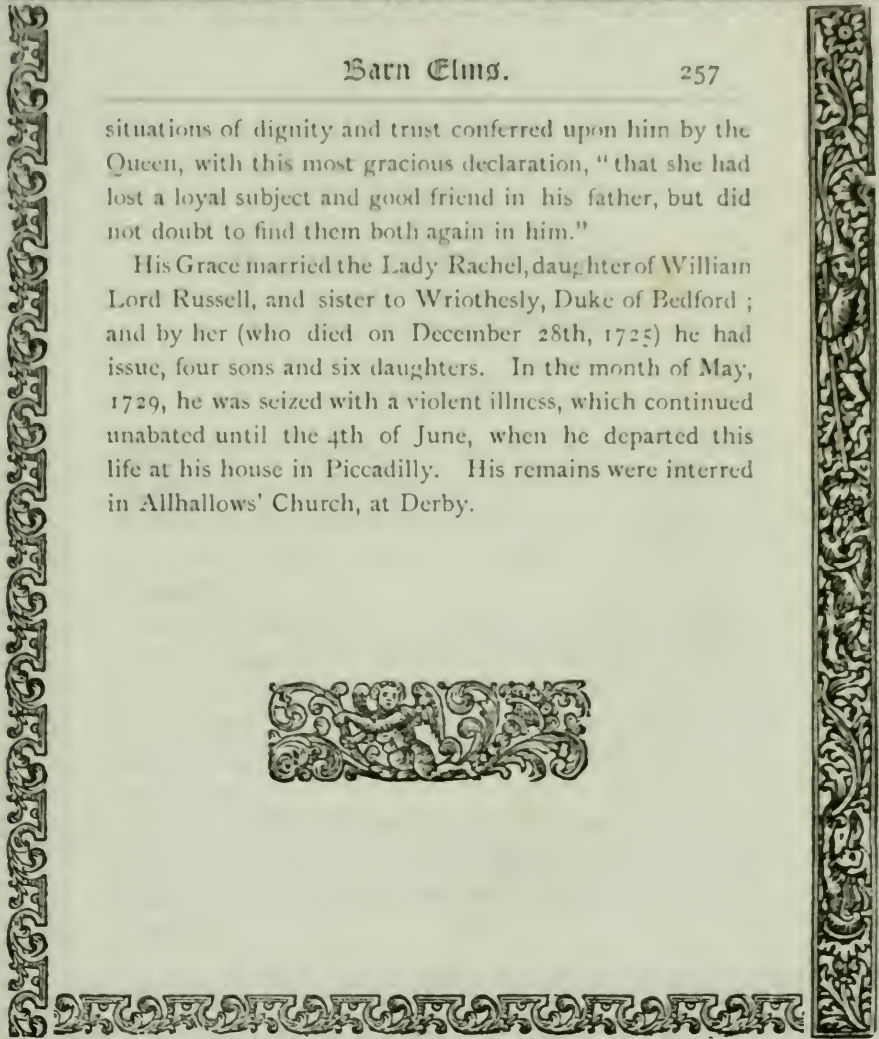
WILLIAM CAVENDISH, second Duke of Devonshire, and son to the first duke of that name, by Lady Mary, second daughter of James, Duke of Ormond, was born about 1665, at Chatsworth, the magnificent seat of his father, in Derbyshire. He served as a volunteer under King William, in Flanders, at a very early age, and upon his return from a tour through France, which he undertook immediately after the peace of Ryswick, he was constituted a member of the House of Commons; in 1695, he was elected one of the Knights for the county of Derby, as also in two other Parliaments, in 1698 and 1700, and a knight of the shire for Yorkshire, in 1702, 1705, and 1707, when he succeeded to the peerage. At this period he was likewise constituted Captain of the yeomen of the guard, besides having many





situations of dignity and trust conferred upon him by the Queen, with this most gracious declaration, "that she had lost a loyal subject and good friend in his father, but did not doubt to find them both again in him."

His Grace married the Lady Rachel, daughter of William Lord Russell, and sister to Wriothesly, Duke of Bedford; and by her (who died on December 28th, 1725) he had issue, four sons and six daughters. In the month of May, 1729, he was seized with a violent illness, which continued unabated until the 4th of June, when he departed this life at his house in Piccadilly. His remains were interred in Allhallows' Church, at Derby.





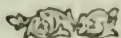




XLV.

## John Churchill,

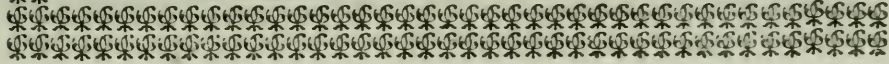
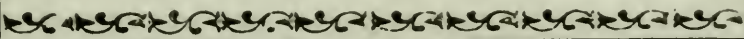
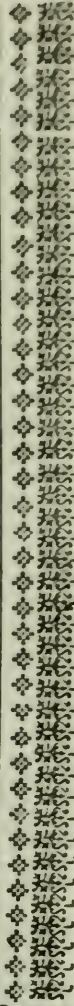
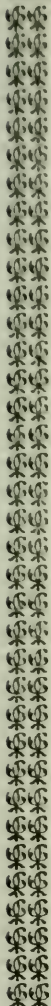
DUKE OF MARLBOROUGH.



**J**OHNS CHURCHILL was the second son of Sir Winston Churchill, the lineal descendant of an ancient and honourable family. He was born on June 24th, 1650, at Ashe, in the parish of Musbury, in Devonshire.

Before he was sixteen years of age, young Churchill was appointed page to the Duke of York, subsequently James II., and was soon after presented by his royal patron with an ensigny in the first regiment of foot guards; his sister Arabella being at the same time Maid of Honour to the Duchess.

In 1671 Churchill served at Tangier against the Moors; and the following year accompanied a detachment of 6,000 men, under the command of the Duke of Monmouth.





We come now to an event in his life which was destined in its consequences to conduct him to the precipice of power and grandeur. This was his marriage with the celebrated Sarah Jennings, a woman conspicuous for her spirit, ambition, irritability of temper, devouring avarice, and shameless profligacy. A short time after he had formed this alliance he was promoted to the rank of Brigadier, and subsequently to that of Major-General. The bigotry of James, and the arbitrary power he claimed and exercised, alarmed but could not intimidate the nation. At length the eyes of all parties were directed to the Prince of Orange. Overtures were made to him by the most distinguished of the nobility: the imminence of the danger extinguished for a while the rage of faction. Churchill entered into an intimate correspondence with the Prince, and matters proceeded to an extremity. William landed at Torbay, and the subject of our present memoir, who still retained the confidence of his master, was sent with Lord Feversham to command the army destined to oppose his progress. Upon the approach of William's forces, he deserted to his standard, and through the influence of his wife, prevailed on the Princess Anne to quit the protection of her father, and retire from the metropolis. The revolution ruined James, and raised William and his consort Mary to the



vacant throne ; but when this event was consummated, we find Churchill immediately afterwards employed and distinguished by William, who, two days before the coronation, created him Earl of Malborough.

In the year 1689 he served a campaign in the Netherlands, under the Prince of Waldeck, where he especially distinguished himself. He was afterwards commissioned to reduce Cork and Kinsale, which he effected with a skill and energy that afforded a splendid presage of his future triumphs. He next accompanied William to the Netherlands, in concert with Lord Godolphin, when his clandestine correspondence with James commenced. The Duke was forthwith dismissed from all his employments, struck out of the list of privy counsellors, and committed to the Tower. Another ground of alienation is to be sought in the intimacy which subsisted between Anne and the wife of our great commander. In vain was the Princess desired to dismiss her attendant ; her affection was proof against the mandate. At length an open schism between the courts of William and Anne arose, and Marlborough had the mortification of suing vainly to William for re-employment. It was during this interval that he betrayed to James the secret of the ill-starred expedition intended for the destruction of the fleet in Brest Harbour, and that his personal safety was nearly





compromised in the affair of Sir John Fenwick. The death of William's consort, Mary, produced a hollow but convenient accommodation between the latter and Anne ; which was not without its advantages to the Duke, of whose services the critical situation of the King obliged him to avail himself. Former suspicions were relinquished, and a most decisive proof of William's restored favour was his nomination of him to the distinguished office of governor to the Duke of Gloucester, the only surviving child of the Princess Anne. Nor was this a solitary instance of the royal favour. In 1701 he was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the British army in the Netherlands, and was intrusted with the arduous task of conducting and completing the intricate negotiations which were destined once more to unite under the same standard the armies of Europe. At this period, Louis, in violation of the most solemn engagements, had placed his grandson on the throne of Spain. The political bias of Marlborough led him to espouse the party of the Tories, and we accordingly discover that for a series of years he identified himself closely with their interests. He does not, however, appear to have been a zealot in their cause : on the contrary, such was his moderation in this respect, that he afterwards, in concert with Lord Godolphin, the Treasurer, coalesced with the moderate Whigs. The death





of King William, who, before he expired, recommended Marlborough to lead the armies and conduct the councils of his successor, was no obstacle to the advancement of his fortunes, but, perhaps, rather assisted them. Within three days of the accession of Queen Anne, she invested him with the order of the Garter, and appointed him Captain-General of all her forces in England, and of those employed in conjunction with her allies. Marks of the most flattering distinction were likewise conferred upon his lady.

In his first campaign he wrested from the French, and that, too, with a rapidity almost unparalleled in the annals of war, Venlo, Ruremonde, Stevenswaert, and Liège, besides making himself master of the castles of Gravenbroeck and Waerto.

On August 13th, 1704, was fought the battle of Blenheim. The details of this ever memorable event are worthy to be paralleled with the most splendid achievements of ancient and modern times, not excepting even those of recent occurrence. They are too well known to require repetition in this place : suffice it to observe, that before the action the strength of the confederate army was about 60,000 men ; that of the Gallo-Bavarians, 62,000 ; that in and subsequent to the battle, the Elector and Marshal Tallard (the latter of whom was taken prisoner) lost by



death, wounds, captivity, and desertion, nearly 40,000 men, besides the greater part of their artillery and baggage ; and that the victory saved Austria from impending ruin, and paralysed the efforts and depressed the spirits of the French troops during the sequel of the war. The surrender of Landau, a fortress on the banks of the Rhine, the siege of which was strongly urged by the Margrave of Baden, was another trophy, the confederates having resolved to terminate operations on this side by its conquest.

On the 20th of May was fought the action of Ramillies. The enemy, commanded by Villeroy and the Elector of Bavaria, occupied a strong position : their army somewhat exceeded that of the allies. After a conflict severe, but neither very long nor doubtful, the French were defeated with the loss of 15,000 men, by death, captivity, wounds, and desertion, almost all their artillery, and a considerable portion of their baggage. This victory decided the fate of the Netherlands, and the campaign ended with the surrender of Ghent, Brussels, &c. Meanwhile the inactivity of the Margrave on the Upper Rhine formed a striking contrast with the vigour and extraordinary achievements of the Duke, who had been gaining immortal honour both as a general and a negotiator. On the side of Italy, Prince Eugene defeated the French army under the Duke of Orleans.



The session of Parliament, in the beginning of 1707, produced the most flattering demonstrations of the high sense entertained of the extraordinary merits of the Duke of Marlborough. Exclusive of the thanks of both Houses, the ducal title was extended to the female line, and Blenheim Palace, and the pension of £5,000 per annum, were entailed in the same manner.

On November 2nd, full of years and of honour, having established a deathless renown, Marlborough departed this life on June 16th, 1721, in the seventy-second year of his age. His Grace left an only daughter. The bulk of his fortune, which, owing to his extreme parsimony, had accumulated to an immense extent, he bequeathed to the Duchess.








XLVI.

## John Montague,

DUKE OF MONTAGUE.

*1709*



**J**OHAN MONTAGUE, second Duke of Montague, the son of Ralph, the third earl and first duke of that name, succeeded to his father's titles in 1709. He was a Knight of the Garter and Grand Master of the Order of the Bath on its revival, and held situations of high trust and confidence during several reigns. But we have been unable to discover the dates when these honours were conferred upon him. Soon after the accession of George I., his Grace commanded the first regiment of foot-guards. In 1705 he married Lady Mary Churchill, youngest daughter of the Duke of Marlborough, by whom he had two daughters; the eldest, Lady Elizabeth, was married to the Duke of Manchester. His youngest daughter and co-heiress, Lady Mary, married George Brudenell, Earl of Cardigan (afterwards Duke of Montague).

His Grace died in 1749 ; and for want of male issue the titles became extinct at his decease.

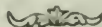




XLVII.

## Henry Clinton,

EARL OF LINCOLN.



**H**ENRY CLINTON, seventh Earl of Lincoln, was born 1684, and succeeded his father in the title before he was ten years of age. He took his seat in the House of Peers March 25th, 1708; and was one of the gentlemen of the bedchamber to Prince George of Denmark, in which capacity he attended at his funeral in November following.

His Lordship married, May 16th, 1717, Lucy, sister to Thomas Holles Pelham, Duke of Newcastle, by whom he had three sons: George, his successor; Henry, who succeeded his uncle in the dukedom of Newcastle; and Thomas, who died in infancy. Also five daughters, who all died young: to Lady Caroline, the last, Queen Caroline stood godmother.

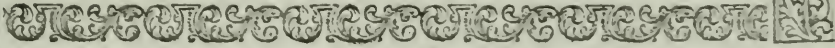

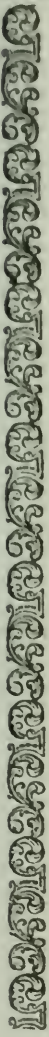

His Lordship departed this life on November 7th, 1728, leaving his Countess surviving, who died at Weybridge, on July 20th, 1736.





XLVIII.

## Jacob Tonson.



**J**ACOB TONSON, the subject of the present notice, was apprenticed June 5th, 1670, to Thomas Basset, bookseller; and having been admitted a freeman of the Company of Stationers, December 20th, 1677, commenced business, as his brother Richard had done twelve months before. At this period his finances could have been in no very flourishing state; for it is recorded of him that he was unable to pay twenty pounds for the first play he published of Dryden's (*The Spanish Friar*, 1681), and so was compelled to admit another bookseller to a share in the transaction. The success of this piece afforded him the means of purchasing those which followed. To this circumstance, added to the lucky bargain he made for the copyright of "*Paradise Lost*," may be referred the origin of Tonson's subsequent



popularity and good fortune. It has been generally supposed that Jacob obtained from Milton himself the property of this immortal poem ; but such was not the case. It was partially sold by the author, in 1667, to one Samuel Simmons, for an immediate payment of five pounds, with a stipulation to receive five pounds more when thirteen hundred should be sold of the first edition ; again, five after the circulation of the same number of the second edition ; and another five after the same sale of the third. None of the impressions were to exceed fifteen hundred copies. Milton claimed the second payment, as appears by his receipt of it, still extant, April 26th, 1669. The third edition did not appear until 1678, when the widow of our immortal poet assigned over her entire property in it to the said Samuel Simmons, who transferred it to Brabason Aylmer, for twenty-five pounds. It was afterwards sold to Jacob Tonson, in two distinct portions : half on 16th August, 1688, and the rest on 24th March, 1690, at a considerable advance of price.

Being a secretary of the Kit-Cat Club made him an excellent butt for the arrows of the satirist, who vented his spleen against him in the following lines :—

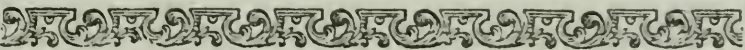
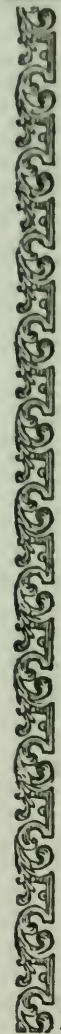
“ Now the assembly to adjourn prepared,  
When Bibliopolo from behind appeared,  
As well described by the old satiric bard ;

<sup>1</sup> Pope also notices Tonson in the *Dunciad*, as "left-legged Jacob."



*With leering look, bull-faced, and freckled fair,  
With two left legs,<sup>1</sup> and Judas-coloured hair,  
And froxy pores, that taint the ambient air ;  
Sweating and puffing for a while he stood,  
And then broke out in this insulting mood :  
' I am the touchstone of all modern wit ;  
Without my stamp in vain your poets write ;  
Those only purchase ever living fame  
That in my " Miscellany " plant their name.  
Nor therefore think that I can bring no aid,  
Because I follow a mechanic trade ;  
I'll print your pamphlets and your rumours spread ;  
I am the founder of your loved Kit-Cat,  
A Club that gave direction to the State ;  
'Twas there we first instructed all our youth  
To talk profane and laugh at sacred truth :  
We taught them how to toast, and rhyme, and bite,  
To sleep away the day, and drink away the night.'  
Some the fantastic speech approved, some sneered,  
The wight grew choleric, and then disappeared."*

There is a laughable anecdote related about Tonson and Lintott, his rival. They both were candidates for printing a work of Dr. Young's. The poet answered both letters the same morning, but, unfortunately, misdirected them. In these epistles he complained of the rascally cupidity of each. Thus he told Tonson that Lintott was so great a scoundrel, that printing with him was out of the question ; and writing to the latter decided that Tonson was an old rascal, but, &c. ; and then makes his election in his favour.



<sup>1</sup> Spence's Anecdotes.

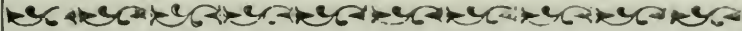
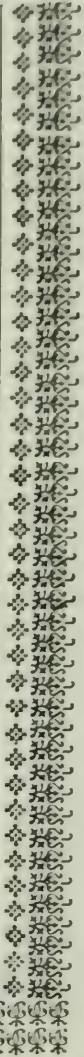
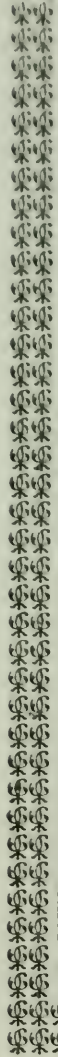




In 1703 he went to Holland, for the purpose of procuring paper, and getting engravings made, for the splendid edition of Cæsar's Commentaries, which he published under the superintendence of Dr. Clarke, in 1712. Before he went abroad he had acquired a country house at Barn Elms, in Surrey, where he built a room for the occasional meetings of the Kit-Cat Club, and ornamented it with the portraits of the members.

Besides being the founder of this celebrated association of wits, he was, from its commencement, their secretary. "The day Lord Mohun and the Earl of Berkeley were entered of it," says Pope,<sup>1</sup> "Jacob said he saw they were just going to be ruined." When Lord Mohun broke down the gilded emblem on the top of his chair, Jacob complained to his friends, remarking "that a man who would do that would cut a man's throat."

In the year 1719 Jacob Tonson made an excursion to Paris, where he spent several months, and was fortunate enough to gain a considerable sum by adventuring in the Mississippi scheme. He had been appointed to the office of stationer, bookbinder, bookseller, and printer to the Government in Queen Anne's time, during the administration of the Whigs; but on the change of ministry Swift obtained the appointment for Alderman Barber.



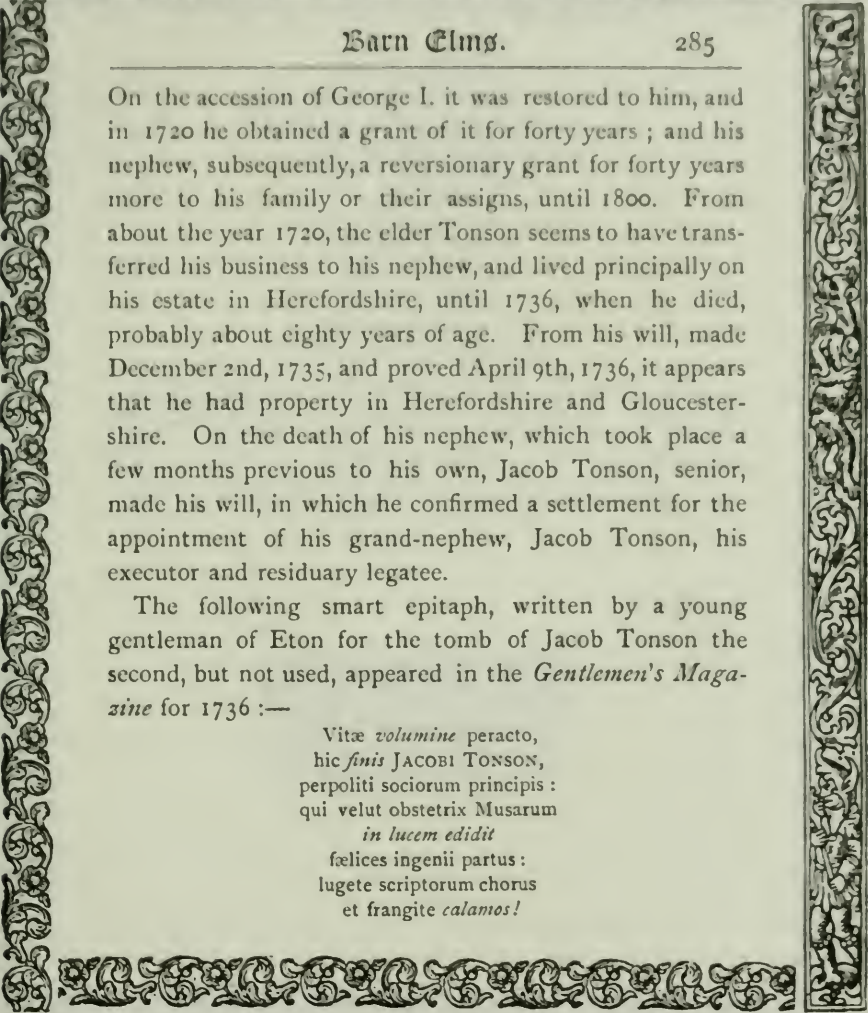




On the accession of George I. it was restored to him, and in 1720 he obtained a grant of it for forty years ; and his nephew, subsequently, a reversionary grant for forty years more to his family or their assigns, until 1800. From about the year 1720, the elder Tonson seems to have transferred his business to his nephew, and lived principally on his estate in Herefordshire, until 1736, when he died, probably about eighty years of age. From his will, made December 2nd, 1735, and proved April 9th, 1736, it appears that he had property in Herefordshire and Gloucestershire. On the death of his nephew, which took place a few months previous to his own, Jacob Tonson, senior, made his will, in which he confirmed a settlement for the appointment of his grand-nephew, Jacob Tonson, his executor and residuary legatee.

The following smart epitaph, written by a young gentleman of Eton for the tomb of Jacob Tonson the second, but not used, appeared in the *Gentlemen's Magazine* for 1736 :—

Vitæ volumine peracto,  
hic finis JACOBI TONSON,  
perpoliti sociorum principis :  
qui velut obstetrix Musarum  
in lucem edidit  
fœlices ingenii partus :  
lugete scriptorum chorus  
et frangite calamos!





Ille vester *marginē crasus deletur* ;  
sed hæc postrema inscriptio  
huic *primæ mortis pagine*  
*imprimatur,*  
ne *prelo sepulchri* commissus  
ipse *editor caret titulo* :  
hic jacet *Bibliopola*  
*foliō vitæ dilapso*  
expectans *novam editionem*  
*auctiorem et emendatiorem !*

Jacob Tonson, senior, was the publisher of the Mezzotinto engravings of the members of the Kit-Cat Club, by Faber, which were dedicated to the Duke of Somerset ; they were published a few months before his death.











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